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COLONIAL REPORTS

St. Helena
1954 & 1955

LONDON

HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

1956

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COLONIAL OFFICE

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1956

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COLONIAL OFFICE

FOR THE YEARS
1954 and 1955

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LONDON: HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
1956

PART I

General Review

ADMINISTRATIVE EVENTS

IN 1955, certain proposals for revising the constitutional arrangements of the Colony, affecting the composition of both the Executive Council and the Advisory Council, were discussed with various bodies in St. Helena and were later submitted for the consideration of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. Pending a decision on these proposals, the Advisory Council, whose term expired on the 23rd July, 1955, was reconstituted for a further period. The District Associations functioned with increasing effectiveness during 1954 and 1955.

Mr. J. D. Harford, the new Governor in succession to Sir George Joy, arrived in St. Helena and assumed the administration on the 11th January, 1954.

ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

The period under review was, on the whole, one of depressed economic conditions. The price of hemp, the staple export, remained low, varying little between about £70 and £75 a ton. The revised shipping subsidy arrangements with the Union Castle Line, providing for the monthly alternation of passenger and cargo vessels each way, instead of a regular monthly passenger ship service, were a blow to the industries in the island affected by tourist traffic. The institution of calls by the Farrell Lines ships, with limited passenger accommodation, on the outward voyage from New York to Cape Town—by one ship every three months in 1954 and for most of 1955 by two ships calling at six weeks' intervals—was a most welcome departure and helped to restore to some extent the position of the tourist industries. The employment position in the island was also unfavourable, especially towards the end of the period. The main cause was the reduction in employment by Messrs. Solomon and Company (St. Helena) Limited from the end of September, 1954, onwards as a result of completion of an important programme of expansion.

Fresh hopes of a further diversification of the island's economy were raised by the pioneering stages by Messrs. Ovenstone Holdings of South Africa of a new fishing and canning industry. Investigations were still in progress at the end of the period.

It is necessary to appreciate the importance to St. Helena of the continued work in conserving its capital agricultural and forestry resources and the improvement of the outlook for animal husbandry, through the parallel efforts of the Government and Messrs. Solomon and Company (St. Helena) Ltd. The effectiveness of the rat

campaign in reducing damage to crops caused by this long standing pest is also worthy of note. The opening of Messrs. Solomon's electricity power house in Jamestown in September, 1954, was a development of importance for that town.

The Colony continued to benefit greatly from grants made by Her Majesty's Government under the Colonial Development and Welfare Acts; particulars of these will be found in Appendix I. The Colony also receives an annual grant-in-aid from Imperial funds : this amounted to £80,000 in 1954 and £74,300 in 1955.

OTHER IMPORTANT EVENTS

Departmental activities of note included : successful progress of a scheme for employment and training of youths in agriculture and forestry ; the start of the progressive abolition of the area available for free grazing by goats ; legislation for the better control and protection of forests ; the opening of a new and greatly improved mental hospital, and the construction of new quarters for nursing sisters ; a campaign against ascariasis ; the closing of the Leper Home with the discharge of the two remaining cases ; an expansion of the dental services by the creation of the grade of Dental Nurse with a view to greater attention to school dental hygiene ; the setting up of a physiotherapy branch of the Public Health Department ; progress with teacher training ; the construction of additional classrooms and the opening of a " Further Education " class. Progress was also made with continued improvement of the island's road system and water supplies. The rebuilding of the main portion of the Jamestown hospital was carried to an advanced stage and a start was made on the construction of a much improved Poor House.

The Longwood Old House Museum was reopened to the public in March, 1955, after years of restoration at the expense of the French Government.

VISITORS

H.M.S. *Pelican* visited St. Helena in September, 1954, and H.M.S. *Sparrow* in September, 1955. The Spanish training ship *Elcano* also paid a visit in February, 1954.

Mr. J. Kitching, Principal Irrigation Officer, Nigeria, visited the Colony in October and November, 1954, to advise on water supply problems. Mr. J. B. Sidebotham of the Colonial Office, paid a " liaison " visit in March and April, 1955. Sir Christopher Cox, Educational Adviser to the Secretary of State, visited the island for one day in March, 1955.

PART II

Chapter 1 : Population

THE island population is largely of mixed origin, being descended from East India Company settlers from Great Britain and employees or slaves introduced from Africa and Asia. The language of the island has always been English, and the English way of life has become firmly established.

The last census was taken in 1946 when the population was 4,748, of whom 1,547 lived in and around Jamestown and 3,201 in the country districts.

The estimated population on 31st December, 1954, was 4,878, and on 31st December, 1955, 4,877.

VITAL STATISTICS

	1954	1955
Births	121	140
Deaths	40	53
Infant Mortality per 1,000 births	33·06	35·7
Still Births	1	1
Illegitimate Births	32	36
Deaths of Infants under 1 year old	4	5
Birth Rate per 1,000	24·72	28·7
Death Rate per 1,000	8·17	10·8
Immigrants	172	211
Emigrants	270	299

Deaths by Age Groups

	1954	1955
0—4 weeks	2	5
4 weeks to 6 months	2	—
6 months to 1 year	—	—
1—10 years	2	—
11—20 „	1	2
21—30 „	1	1
31—40 „	—	2
41—50 „	2	3
51—60 „	5	9
61—70 „	5	16
71—80 „	11	14
80—90 „	7	5
91—100 „	1	—
Unclassified	1	—
Total	40	57

A table of the population from 1902 to 1955 is given in Appendix II.

Chapter 2 : Occupations, Wages and Labour Organisation

OCCUPATIONS AND WAGES

The principal categories of wage earners as recorded in the 1946 census, together with a comparative estimate of the position at the end of 1955, were as follows :

	1946	1955
Flax industrial workers	205	247
Agricultural labourers	165	280
Skilled and general labourers	350	400
Building tradesmen and apprentices	85	100
Fishermen and boatmen	50	40
Mechanics, engine and motor drivers	70	100

A comparative table of weekly wage rates in 1951, 1954 and 1955 is given below :

	1951		1954 & 1955	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Flax mill operatives	33s. 6d.	29s. 0d.	33s. 6d.	29s. 0d. & 30s. 0d.
Agricultural labourers :				
Government	30s. 6d.	—	45s. 0d.	—
Commercial	27s. 6d.	—	33s. 6d.	—
General Labourers :				
Government	30s. 6d.	—	45s. 0d.	—
Commercial	30s. 0d.	—	33s. 6d.	—
Skilled labour employed by Government :				
Carpenters	} 32s. 0d. to 38s. 0d.	—	46s. 6d.	} —
Masons, Plumbers, Wood		—	to	
Machinists		—	53s. 6d.	

The average hours of work are 45 per week.

The following particulars relate to labour employed by the Public Works Department. An average of 138 men was employed during the period under review ; their occupations and wages at the end of 1955 were as follows :

No.	Occupation	Remarks	Wages per week
57	Artisans	Building and mechanical tradesmen	46s. 6d. to 53s. 6d.
11	Transport Drivers	Cars, lorries, road rollers, etc.	48s. 0d.
59	Labourers	General	45s. 0d.
11	Apprentices	All trades, 3 years	23s. 0d., 25s. 0d. and 29s. 0d.

Charge hands, included in the above, receive 2s. to 3s. per week extra.

OCCUPATIONS, WAGES AND LABOUR ORGANISATION 7

The Department works nine hours a day, Monday to Friday, *i.e.* 45 hours per week, but plumbers and water caretakers spread their hours over six days and are on call in emergencies on Sundays.

COST OF LIVING

The cost-of-living index in 1955 showed an increase of 112 points over the index for 1939. The following table shows the changes over recent years :

	1939	1950	1952	1953	1954	1955
Indices	100	190	232	220	216	212

The fall in 1954 and 1955 was due mainly to some slight reduction in the cost of certain items of imported foodstuffs, although the cost of tea in 1955 showed an increase over the 1954 cost of 7·1 per cent.

The average retail prices of the main commodities were :

Items	Unit	Mid Year	End Year	Mid Year	End Year
		1954	1954	1955	1955
Sugar . . . lb.		7d.	7d.	7d.	7d.
Rice . . . lb.		1s. 3d.	1s. 3d.	1s. 1d.	11½d.
*Flour . . . lb.		4½d.	4½d.	4½d.	4½d.
Lard . . . lb.		2s. 0d.	2s. 0d.	1s. 10d.	1s. 10d.
Margarine. . lb.		1s. 10d.	1s. 10d.	1s. 7d.	1s. 7d.
*Bread . . . 1½ lb. loaf		6d.	6d.	6d.	6d.
Tinned Milk . per tin		1s. 9d.	1s. 9d.	1s. 4d.	1s. 4d.
Fresh Milk . . pt.		5d.	5d.	5d.	6d.
Jam (Loose) . lb.		1s. 3d.	1s. 3d.	1s. 2d.	1s. 2d.
Jam (Tin) . . lb.		1s. 10d.	1s. 10d.	1s. 9d.	1s. 9d.
Tea . . . lb.		6s. 2d.	6s. 2d.	7s. 4d.	7s. 4d.
Butter . . . lb.		4s. 9d.	4s. 9d.	4s. 5d.	4s. 5d.
Eggs. . . each		3½d.	3½d.	3½d.	3½d.
Fish . . . lb.		4d.	4d.	4d.	4d.
Meat . . . lb.		1s. 9d.	1s. 9d.	1s. 9d.	1s. 9d.
Soap (Toilet) . tablet		8d.	8d.	7d.	7d.
Soap (Common) 2 lb.		2s. 5d.	2s. 5d.	2s. 1d.	2s. 1d.
Fuel . . . ton		50s. 0d.	50s. 0d.	50s. 0d.	50s. 0d.

LABOUR LEGISLATION

The principal laws in force for the protection of workers are :

The Factories Ordinance, Cap. 36.

The Workmen's Compensation Ordinance, Cap. 132.

The Contracts of Service Ordinance, No. 3 of 1951.

* These items continued to be subsidised by Government.

LABOUR RELATIONS

There is no Labour Department. Relations between employer and employee are regulated, and disputes settled, in consultation with the Government.

MIGRATION OF LABOUR

There is regular emigration of domestic servants to the United Kingdom, and in 1954 and 1955, 95 of them went to Britain under contract.

Chapter 3: Public Finance and Taxation

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

The Colony relies on a substantial grant-in-aid to balance its budget and on grants under the Colonial Development and Welfare Acts to finance development expenditure.

There is no public debt.

The principal heads of revenue in 1952-55 were as follows :

	1952	1953	1954	1955
	£	£	£	£
Customs	31,576	26,759	25,694	22,574
Port and Marine	2,277	2,558	2,352	2,191
Licences, Taxes, etc.	2,009	2,204	2,688	4,362
Court Fees, etc.	6,006	6,556	6,749	5,391
Post Office	3,600	30,052*	7,017*	4,536
Rentals, etc.	2,168	2,698	2,424	2,337
Interest	359	614	1,600	427
Miscellaneous	3,662	2,894	2,986	2,433
Ascension	2,699	6,015*	10,979*	6,122
Revenue from Foodstocks Re- volving Fund	5,000	5,000	5,000	4,063
TOTAL	59,356	85,350	67,489	54,436
Grant-in-Aid	47,000	25,700	80,000	74,300
TOTAL	106,356	111,050	147,489	128,736
Colonial Development and Welfare Grants	21,179	25,122	33,397	33,892
GRAND TOTAL	127,535	136,172	180,886	162,628

* Increased owing to the sale of new definitive issues of St. Helena and Ascension stamps and of Coronation stamps.

The principal heads of expenditure in 1952-55 were as follows :

	1952	1953	1954	1955
	£	£	£	£
Governor	3,103	3,173	3,293	3,002
Agriculture and Forestry	12,055	11,859	11,698	12,926
Ascension	488	1,076	8,062*	6,714*
Audit	1,516	1,436	1,754	1,708
Education	13,087	13,238	13,858	13,868
Miscellaneous Services	18,132	14,354	31,059*	21,442*
Pensions	2,254	2,006	3,549	3,460
Police and Gaol	3,136	3,376	3,347	3,504
Poor Relief	8,629	8,534	10,487	14,790
Post Office	3,248	6,939	1,947	2,601
Public Health	11,903	12,108	13,850	14,928
Public Works Department	14,512	15,103	14,597	14,534
Public Works Recurrent	14,220	11,962	9,892	10,535
Secretariat and Printing Office	5,101	4,691	4,899	5,133
Telephones	706	778	—	—
Treasure, Customs, etc.	4,932	5,003	4,733	4,804
TOTAL RECURRENT	117,022	115,636	137,025	133,949
Public Works Non-Recurrent	3,170	1,176	1,564	618
Colonial Development and Welfare	21,830	22,291	34,788	35,669
GRAND TOTAL	142,022	139,103	173,377	170,236

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1955

<i>Liabilities</i>	<i>Assets</i>
£	£
Deposits, invested or partly invested and other deposits	Cash held locally and at Crown Agents
100,585	16,366
Foodstocks Revolving Fund	Investment of available balances
27,446	25,000
Bills of Exchange	Investment of deposits
2,502	90,023
Excess of Assets over Liabilities	Advances
4,356	3,500
<hr/>	<hr/>
134,889	134,889
<hr/>	<hr/>

* Increase arising from the introduction of a substantial subsidy in place of the small mail subsidy previously paid under Post Office.

	£	s.	d.
Due by Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes	3,227	15	4
Contingent liability to Government Savings Bank .	9,528	18	4
General Revenue Balance :			
Surplus at 1st January, 1955	11,964	0	3
Deduct deficit 1955	7,607	16	9
Surplus at 31st December, 1955	£4,356	3	6

TAXATION

The principal sources of taxation and the yield from each during 1954 and 1955 were as follows :

	1954	1955
	£	£
Customs :		
Import Duties	21,589	20,770
Export Duties	4,106	1,803
Port and Marine :		
Wharfage	1,820	1,634
Shipping dues	319	317
Crannage dues	150	150
Licences, Taxes, etc. :		
Boats	75	77
Cinema	30	40
Dogs and Horses	181	184
Fishing	—	50
Road Vehicles	461	482
Shops, Butchers, etc.	152	148
Game and Firearms	66	79
Import Tax	702	659
Income Tax	620	1,430
Estate and Succession duties	14	847
Entertainment Tax	179	146
Water Rates	620	1,430

Customs Duties

The main features of the Customs Tariff, as at 31st December, 1955, are shown in Appendix III.

Death Duties

Duties are payable on all real and personal property which passes on the death of a person (see the Estate and Succession Duties Ordinance, Cap. 33). The duties are divided into—

- (a) Estate duty, which is a charge on the body of the estate, on a scale of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent over £250 and not exceeding £500, 1 per cent to £1,000, 2 per cent to £2,000, 4, 6 and 8 per cent to

£3,000, £5,000 and £7,000 respectively, and scaling up to 25 per cent on estates over £60,000. No duty is payable on estates not exceeding £250.

- (b) Succession duty, which is imposed in addition to the estate duty and is collected at rates varying with the relationship of the successor. The scale commences with succession value over £250 and not exceeding £500, the rates in the three classes concerned being $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent for a husband, lineal descendant or ancestor of the deceased, 2 per cent for a brother or sister or their descendants, and 4 per cent in the case of any other degree of relationship or a stranger. The rates increase to 1, 4 and 8 per cent on a succession value not exceeding £1,000, to 2, 10 and 20 per cent up to £10,000 and thereafter scale up to 4, 15 and 25 per cent on a value in excess of £30,000. No duty is payable on a value not exceeding £250.

Provision is also made for the transfer to Government of real property in lieu of cash where duties are payable in respect of such property.

Stamp Duties

These are charges levied on all classes of instruments scheduled in the Stamp Duties Ordinance, Cap. 107, and are collected by means of postage stamps. Some of the principal duties are :

Affidavits, declarations, etc.	5s.
Contracts or agreements under £10	2s. 6d.
" " " over £10	5s.
Arbitration awards under £50	5s.
" " " over £50	10s.
Authentication certificate	20s.
Mortgage bonds per £100 up to £500	2s.
" " " £100 " £1,000	3s.
" " " £100 " £2,000	5s.
" " " £100 exceeding £2,000	10s.
Leases according to tenure and rental	from 1s. to £2
Notarial act or instrument	5s.
Power of Attorney—special power	2s.
" " " —general power	10s.
Deed of transfer of immovable property for every £10	1s.

Entertainment Tax

There is a tax under Ordinance, Cap. 31, on every ticket sold for any public entertainment on a scale of 1d. on a ticket not exceeding 1s., 2d. on a ticket exceeding 1s. but not exceeding 2s., and 3d. on any ticket costing more than 2s.

Import Tax

This was imposed by Ordinance, Cap. 53, and involves payment of 10s. per £100 value of goods imported into St. Helena.

Income Tax

Income tax became payable with effect from 1st January, 1954, in accordance with Ordinance No. 5 of 1953. The tax, which is levied on incomes from local sources only, is at the rate of 9*d.* in the £. There is a personal allowance of £300 and an abatement of one-third of the tax for married persons. Company tax is payable at 1*s.* 6*d.* in the £. A tabular statement showing the incidence of the tax on individuals and companies is given in Appendix IV.

Chapter 4: Currency and Banking

The St. Helena Coinage Order, 1925, was revoked by Proclamation during 1949 and replaced by the Currency, Coinage and Legal Tender Ordinance, Cap. 22, which provided *inter alia* that the Colony's currency should be Bank of England notes and United Kingdom coins.

The estimated amount of currency in circulation at the end of 1955 was £40,000. This includes South African currency which is accepted locally.

There is no commercial bank operating in the Colony. The Government Savings Bank is the only banking institution. The number of depositors and total deposits during the last four years were as follows :

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Depositors at 31st December</i>	<i>Balances of Deposits at 31st December</i>
1952 .	533	100,221
1953 .	538	89,798
1954 .	524	94,252
1955 .	530	95,334

Chapter 5: Commerce

Total imports (excluding bullion and specie) were valued at £214,852 in 1954 and £206,551 in 1955. Total exports were £46,915 in 1954 and £56,177 in 1955, the decrease compared with the two previous years being accounted for by the fall in the quantity and value of hemp exports.

IMPORTS

The following table shows the principal heads and respective values of imports for the two years under review and the two previous years :

	1952 £	1953 £	1954 £	1955 £
Food, drink and tobacco . . .	99,859	94,696	98,072	100,514
Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured . . .	7,753	7,408	6,093	4,655
Articles wholly or mainly manu- factured . . .	100,204	107,339	110,561	101,042
Miscellaneous and unclassified . .	20	64	126	340
	<u>£207,836</u>	<u>£209,507</u>	<u>£214,852</u>	<u>£206,551</u>

The quantities and values of items imported in the two years under review were as follows :

Unit	Quantity		Value	
	1954	1955	1954	1955
			£	£
Ale, Beer and Stout . . galls.	12,018	11,007	4,600	4,176
Biscuits . . . cwt.	114	159½	1,259	1,835
Butter . . . "	147½	191½	3,143	3,836
Cheese . . . "	194½	271½	2,303	2,749
Confectionery . . . "	387½	474	4,286	5,465
Flour . . . "	9,236	7,508½	20,036	16,379
Grains and Meal . . . "	1,970	2,315	3,108	3,577
Jams and Marmalade . . . "	237½	314½	1,124	1,418
Lard and Substitutes . . . "	722½	719½	5,863	5,451
Margarine . . . "	929	1,158	6,723	8,138
Canned Meats . . . "	109	103½	1,748	1,643
Meats (salted) . . . "	157	203½	2,277	2,554
Milk and Milk Powder . . . "	1,517½	284	9,663	1,852
Rice . . . "	1,156	2,000	4,715	7,000
Sugar . . . "	2,533½	4,430½	5,266	9,204
Spirits and Liquers . . galls.	1,052½	819	1,609	1,442
Tea . . . cwt.	159½	175½	4,535	5,185
Tobacco and Cigarettes . lbs.	9,737	10,133	5,028	5,305
Cotton Piece Goods . . sq. yds.	16,095	13,763	2,020	1,777
Rayon Piece Goods . . . "	5,558	4,799	776	622
Mineral Oils and Motor Spirits . . . galls.	159,584	94,787	14,519	8,223
Motor Vehicles . . . Nos.	11	18	2,955	6,502
Machinery and parts . . . —	—	—	4,917	3,056
Timber . . . tons	131½	82½	5,777	4,347
Cement . . . "	662	450½	4,586	3,257
Coal . . . "	42½	44	316	308
Other Articles . . .			123,152	115,301
			91,700	91,250
			<u>£214,852</u>	<u>£206,551</u>

The sources of imports were as follows :

	1952		1953		1954		1955	
	£	Per Cent	£	Per Cent	£	Per Cent	£	Per Cent
United Kingdom . . .	127,244	61½	123,483	59	120,011	56	108,366	52½
South Africa . . .	34,109	16½	39,224	18½	38,166	18	41,004	19½
Australia . . .	1,491	¾	626	¾	987	½	463	½
New Zealand . . .	6,631	3½	5,373	2½	4,423	2	5,896	2½
Rest of Common- wealth . . .	11,603	5½	12,280	6	29,724	13½	27,359	13½
Other Countries . . .	181,078		180,986		193,311		183,088	
	26,758	12½	28,521	13½	21,541	10	23,463	11½
	<u>£207,836</u>		<u>£209,507</u>		<u>£214,852</u>		<u>£206,551</u>	

Goods originating in the United Kingdom, during the two years under review mainly consisted of :

	1954	1955
	£	£
Biscuits (all kinds)	1,045	1,736
Confectionery	1,976	3,277
Flour	3,820	19
Lard and substitutes	5,732	5,406
Margarine	6,723	8,138
Milk and Milk Powder	7,679	774
Spirits and Liquers	1,121	1,054
Tobacco and Cigarettes	4,578	4,692
Cotton Piece Goods	1,955	1,770
Motor Vehicles	2,955	6,502
Machinery and parts	4,617	2,799
Timber	1,019	513
Cement	4,586	3,257

Imports from South Africa for the two years under review mainly consisted of :

	1954	1955
	£	£
Beer and Stout	4,470	3,151
Confectionery	2,310	2,188
Grains and Meal	2,449	3,469
Jams	950	1,311
Salted Meats	2,172	1,770
Milk and Milk Powder	1,958	1,068
Sugar	4,418	8,301
Mineral Oils	5,575	5,353

Imports from other Commonwealth countries for the two years under review were primarily :

	1954	1955
	£	£
Butter (New Zealand)	2,795	3,261
Cheese (New Zealand)	1,617	2,604
Flour (Canada)	16,216	16,360
Tea (India)	1,811	2,774
„ (Ceylon)	2,240	2,044
Timber (East Africa)	2,775	3,652
„ (West Africa)	1,818	—

Goods originating in foreign countries were mainly :

	1954	1955
	£	£
Rice (Burma)	4,435	7,000
Mineral Oils (U.S.A.)	1,858	622



(G. F. Gammer)

A St. Helena girl



A bullock-cart being loaded with flax

(G. F. Gammer)



Longwood Old House, where Napoleon was exiled, after restoration

(L. A. Self)

EXPORTS

The quantity and value of exports in 1952-55 were :

	1952		1953		1954		1955	
	Tons	£	Tons	£	Tons	£	Tons	£
Hemp	797	101,414	975	63,587	505	32,628	594½	38,608
Tow	472½	26,680	461½	13,877	268	9,466	250	9,185
Rope and Twine	51	7,449	42	4,612	42	4,200	71	6,743
Other Articles	—	1,477	—	782	—	621	—	1,641
		£137,020		£82,858		£46,915		£56,177

The main markets were as follows :

Country of destination	1952		1953		1954		1955	
	£	Per Cent	£	Per Cent	£	Per Cent	£	Per Cent
United Kingdom	132,742	97	81,581	98½	45,205	96½	53,867	96
South Africa	4,278	3	1,277	1½	200	½	1,640	3
	137,020		82,858		45,405		55,507	
Other Countries	—		—		1,510	3	670	1
	137,020		82,858		46,915		56,177	

There were no outstanding commercial developments in the period reviewed. Imports from non-scheduled territories continued to be restricted by exchange control considerations. Import licences also continued to be required for certain foodstuffs.

The channel of distribution of imported goods remained unaltered, i.e. local firms and one United Kingdom registered company. Retail price control of certain essential commodities continued in force during the two years under review.

The Colony has no Government or Trade Representative abroad.

Chapter 6 : Production

LAND UTILISATION AND LAND TENURE

The area of St. Helena is 47 square miles. Of this about one square mile is arable land, about five square miles are under flax (*Phormium tenax*), some seven square miles are pasture and about one and a half square miles are forest. The remaining 32½ square miles consist of waste land much of which could be brought back to forest through a process of assisted natural regeneration.

Soil erosion has been a major problem in the island. Great damage was done in the past through widespread denudation of the natural forests and the uncontrolled grazing of many goats. More recently, erosion due to over-grazing threatened the destruction of the pasture lands and with them the agricultural life of the island.

The first effective action against the goats was taken in 1940, when they were excluded from the high country. Subsequent measures, including re-forestation, fencing of pastures and control of stock numbers, have gone far to safeguard the high country and

increase the productive capacity of the land. A further important step was taken towards the end of 1955 when the Government adopted the policy of abolishing piece by piece over the coming years the goat range on which at present goats are still permitted to roam at will.

On arable land, terracing prior to the period under review has been satisfactorily maintained, but only limited progress was made with new bench terracing, principally on account of the cost in relation to the market value of present crops. The possibility of loans for this purpose is under consideration, but so far no suitable scheme has been evolved.

With regard to water conservation, several private springs have now been protected and the measures mentioned above have naturally greatly improved the condition of the catchment areas.

Weather conditions during 1954 and 1955 were particularly favourable for reconditioning work and the general position was much improved; but so long as the greater part of the island remains waste land there can be no relaxation in the work of rehabilitation.

The types of land tenure common on the island are freehold and leasehold, the freehold titles dating back to East India Company days.

A Land Settlement and Government Pasturages Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of the Agricultural and Forestry Officer has been formed and is considering the possibilities of small land settlement schemes. A scheme for training youths in practical farming was started at the beginning of 1954 and the possibility of drawing potential settlers from this source is being borne in mind.

New Zealand Hemp

The production of Phormium fibre is the main agricultural industry of the Colony. Two firms own the bulk of the leaf-growing area and the mills. Owing to low prices and shortages of leaf only three mills were in operation at the beginning of 1954, but by the end of 1955 two more were running and the general appearance of the plantations was much improved owing to the weather conditions of the last two years. Improved milling efficiency makes it unlikely that at least one secondary private mill will ever re-open, whilst the Government-owned mill at Longwood has now been permanently closed and the site and buildings are to be used for other purposes. Comparative production figures over the last four years are as follows :

	1952	1953	1954	1955
	tons	tons	tons	tons
Hemp	797	975	505	594½
Tow	472½	461½	268	250
Rope and Twine	51	42	42	71

The total value of fibre and its products in 1954 and 1955 were £46,294 and £54,536 respectively. The corresponding figures for 1952 and 1953 were £137,020 and £82,858.

Lily Bulbs

The numbers of bulbs of *Lilium Longiflorum* exported in 1954 and 1955 were 1,834 and 1,598 respectively. With the control of eelworm the quality of the bulbs has become good, but there remain certain cultural difficulties which have checked rapid expansion of the industry. Of these the most important is what is known as "premature sprouting". In this the plants fail to dry back properly before starting into growth again. Experiments are in progress with a view to finding answers to these problems.

Food Crops

The most welcome feature of food production in the last two years has been the end of the shortages of potatoes which were a feature of the previous seasons. The largest landowning company contributed to this by more extensive plantings. Good summer rains in both years favoured the crop, though winter production was still reduced by losses from potato blight. Production of green vegetables continued to be the main activity of small growers, but the market suffered with the reduction in the number of passenger ships calling at the island.

During the period reviewed an island-wide rat destruction campaign was carried out with very satisfactory results and considerable benefit to the growers of certain crops, such as sweet potatoes and maize, which had become quite uneconomic owing to rat depredations.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

Stock census figures at the end of 1953 and 1955 were as follows :

	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Horses</i>	<i>Donkeys</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Goats</i>	<i>Poultry</i>
1953 .	792	35	1,173	2,065	141	2,096	7,802
1955 .	724	29	1,161	1,218	266	1,861	9,200

During 1955, 186 cattle, 399 sheep and 93 pigs were slaughtered compared with 219 cattle, 860 sheep and 71 pigs in 1953. Sales of meat were 52,697 lb. of beef, 7,151 lb. of mutton and 7,000 lb. of pork. The price of meat at the end of 1955 was 1s. 6d. for beef and mutton and 2s. for pork.

The price of milk remained at 2s. 8d. per gallon at dairies. One dairy ceased production at the beginning of 1955, but production from a new dairy made headway and with favourable seasonal conditions total production was more than maintained. Small quantities of butter were made and cheese-making trials were begun at Longwood.

It is hoped that the decline in numbers of sheep and cattle has now ceased, as improvement of the lands following the reconditioning of recent years should facilitate the rebuilding of stock numbers. The demand for meat, however, is difficult to meet. It had been hoped that much increased pork production would have gone far to fill the gap, but although pig numbers and pork production were greater, the increase in the pig population was less than had been hoped.

In general, animals have been in much better condition than for many years and the resumption of hay-making should lessen the adverse effects of possible droughts in the future.

No outbreaks of animal disease occurred during the period under review, but annual inoculations of cattle against Anthrax and Black Quarter were continued. Worm infestations have always been a factor in stock farming in St. Helena and these still receive too little attention.

Progeny from the Government Ayrshire herd have been sold to a number of farmers, and Ayrshire bulls have been in service at Longwood, the Sunnyside Stock Centre and at Botley's Ley. One bull is leased out to a private firm which is the main milk producer.

Longwood and Sunnyside also have Large Black boars in service as well as breeding sows, whilst the imported Catalan donkey continued to be at stud during the two years covered by this report.

Poultry have continued to increase and both poultry and pig keeping have been helped by the reduction in the rat population.

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT STAFF

At the end of 1955 the senior field staff of the Agricultural Department consisted of the Agricultural and Forestry Officer, Agricultural Superintendent, Senior Agricultural Supervisor, two Agricultural Supervisors and two Stock Inspectors. Work is organised in two divisions, the Scotland Division covering the western half of the island and the Longwood Division covering the eastern half.

FORESTRY

Towards the end of 1954 a new Forestry Ordinance was enacted. Under it three types of forest can be constituted: National, Dedicated and Protected Private Forests. With the assistance of a Forestry Advisory Committee, good progress was made in 1955 with the constitution of forests under the Ordinance, though this work is not yet finished. In 1939 it was estimated that forests in St. Helena had dwindled to no more than 400 acres all told and much of this was suffering from depredation by goats. By 1956 it was estimated that national forests comprised about 1,000 acres of which 800 are established, 100 are in the early stages of natural regeneration and 100 are not yet developed. Private forest was estimated to total about 200 acres though much of this has not been brought under the Ordinance.

Experience has shown that, given protection from roaming animals, denuded areas can be brought back to forest by natural regeneration of such trees as *pinus pinaster* and Port Jackson Willow (*Acacia Longifolia*). This process has been markedly successful on the northern side of the island but on the southern, or windward, side large areas remain barren owing to the almost complete absence of seed-bearing trees. Small scale trials of seed sowing *in situ*, particularly of Port Jackson Willow, showed that this could facilitate subsequent regeneration and, accordingly, in 1954 a more

ambitious scheme of seed sowing on an extensive area in the south-east of the island was begun. If this proves as successful as the earlier trials, then much land at present entirely useless should be capable of being reafforested at a comparatively low cost.

A statement of forest policy was approved at the end of 1954. This recognises two classes of forests : those above the 1,500 ft. contour which should produce fuel and timber and are important for the protection of the main catchment areas, and those below that contour which are of importance in checking further erosion and in bringing back denuded areas to forest. The long-term policy for the latter class is the creation of a forest belt between the fertile interior and the dry lowlands all round the island. This belt can be seen emerging on the northern side but is still non-existent on the southern side where the waste lands are still encroaching. The gradual extinction of the goat range mentioned above is of importance in this connection.

As regards production, the main object is the provision of fuel and timber for local use. Although it has been possible safely to increase fuel production from national forests during the period under review, there is still a chronic shortage of firewood which must continue for some years yet. The amount of mature timber in the forests at present is negligible and it must still be many years before timber is produced in any significant quantity.

Staff

The senior staff of the Forestry Division of the Agricultural and Forestry Department consists of a Head Forester and an Assistant Forester working directly under the Agricultural and Forestry Officer.

FISHERIES

Fish of many kinds are plentiful in the waters round St. Helena. Investigations into commercial possibilities have been made at various times, but no fish canning industry has so far been established. New investigations by Messrs. Ovenstone Holdings of South Africa were in progress at the end of 1955.

Fishermen employ about 25 boats for supplying the local market.

The method of fishing is almost entirely by line. The commonest fish caught are albacore, tuna, rock-cod, and small mackerel. The retail price averages about 6*d.* per lb.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

The only co-operative society in St. Helena is the St. Helena Growers' Co-operative Society. For various reasons it had a bad year in 1954 but made a good recovery in 1955. Sales of supplies during 1954 amounted to £1,357 1*s.* 4*d.* which included sales to Messrs. Cable and Wireless Limited at Ascension amounting to £68 13*s.* 7*d.* and sales to ships calling at St. Helena amounting to £398 14*s.* 2*d.* The corresponding figures in 1955 were £1,904 4*s.* 2*d.*, £84 2*s.* 2*d.* and £869 17*s.* 1*d.*

The Society also assists its members by supplying vegetable seeds, seed potatoes and agricultural implements.

Chapter 7: Social Services

EDUCATION

In its growth and pattern the educational system resembles, in a simplified form, that of England. In 1941 an Amalgamation Ordinance brought Church and charity schools under the control of the Government and direction of the Education Officer. The Church and the charities retain representation on the Board of Education which advises on the implementation of Government educational policy. The very progressive Education Ordinance of 1941 laid down the general structure of the system and has required no significant modification.

Education is compulsory and free for all children between five and 15, but power to exempt children after the age of 14 years is given to the Education Officer. More than 1,300 children, some 27 per cent of the total population—an exceptionally high proportion—are enrolled in 12 schools in various parts of the island. The population is literate though educational standards are lower than in Britain. There is at present no facility for formal education beyond the age of 15.

The Education Officer and his staff also undertake information and library work (see p. 32).

Total expenditure on education in 1955 amounted to nearly £14,000 which represents approximately 12 per cent of the total Government expenditure.

<i>Schools</i>	<i>Children on roll at Jan., 1955</i>	<i>Staff</i>	
		<i>Head and Assistants</i>	<i>Pupil Teachers</i>
Primary (5-11 years)			
Blue Hill	41	1	1
Country Junior	98	3	2
Half Tree Hollow	150	2	4
Jamestown Infants	122	1	4
Jamestown Junior	179	1	7
Longwood	121	3	2
All-range (5-15 years)			
Hutt's Gate	135	1	5
Levelwood	78	1 part-time	1
Sandy Bay	59	2	2
Secondary (11-15 years)			
Country Senior	162	3 + 2*	3
Pilling Senior	150	4 + 3*	1
St. Helena Secondary Selective	70	2	2
		3 part-time	

* Special subject teachers.

The considerable increase in the child population during the last 10 years has been matched by the provision of five new schools and extensions to others financed almost entirely from funds made available under the Colonial Development and Welfare Acts. The new light and airy buildings are well designed and a source of justifiable pride to the island. One old school, that at Hutt's Gate, is in urgent need of replacement ; others will be required in a few years and it is hoped that a programme of development will be possible under Colonial Development and Welfare provision for 1955-60.

In spite of difficulties of adequate staffing, the comprehensive curriculum is reasonably well taught. In 1955 a new scheme for teaching reading was introduced in primary schools to tackle the intractable problem of backwardness in reading which seems an almost inevitable consequence of isolation on a remote island.

The Secondary School, from a small beginning with 12 pupils in 1946, now has a roll of 70. It occupies part of the old barracks on Ladder Hill but is in need of more suitable classrooms. Selected children from all parts of the island attend and some transport, by bus, is provided. The need for more adequately trained youngsters for administrative and executive posts has resulted in a plan to extend the scope of the school to a grammar school " stream ".

Handicrafts and housecraft are taught in the larger senior schools where facilities are available, and good standards are achieved. Three country schools have large gardens ; theoretical and practical instruction is given in rural pursuits. The school exhibits of craft work and produce in the Agricultural Shows of 1954 and 1955 were widely admired.

School meals are not provided but milk is served each school day to all children. This is normally made from dried milk powder but a generous gift of " evaporated " milk from the British Government in 1955 allowed an increase, for that year, in the daily ration of $\frac{1}{2}$ pt. per child. This milk, more palatable than the dried, was greatly appreciated.

Except for absences during an epidemic of influenza in 1955 attendance figures continued to be very satisfactory and of the order of 90 per cent. Unwarranted absences have been a slight problem in some of the poorer areas, but prosecution of a few parents and guardians was salutary.

Students Abroad

Two student teachers are at present studying in Britain, both having Colonial Development and Welfare scholarships. One has satisfactorily completed his professional training and is engaged on a special third year course at the Royal College of Music ; the other is in her first year at a Teacher Training College.

Teacher Training

There are no facilities for formal teacher training and at present no local teacher in the schools has been college trained. A pupil-teacher system has long been operating ; entry is normally at the

age of 15 and the training, over a four year period, devolves on the Education Officer who is assisted by expatriate and senior head teachers. The emigration of numbers of young pupil and assistant teachers had adversely affected the work of the Department but has been less serious in the period under review. Even so the staffing figures show an unfortunately high proportion of young and inexperienced teachers. The training programme for young teachers comprises regular lectures and seminars at convenient centres after school hours, lesson supervision, conferences and residential courses. These last, begun in 1953, have become a regular feature of training and are extremely popular. Pupil and assistant teachers are able to sit examinations, after approved periods of service and study, to qualify for higher status.

Staff

The reduction in the number of young teachers leaving the Department has brought greater stability and has raised the standards of teaching, but the appeal of a wider environment in Britain—even as a domestic servant—continues to induce some young people to leave. The figures for the last four years illustrate this point.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Teachers emigrating</i>	<i>Leaving for other reasons</i>	<i>New pupil teachers employed</i>
1952 . . .	4	3	4
1953 . . .	3	2	9
1954 . . .	2	3	9
1955 . . .	2	4	8

In May, 1954, Mr. E. J. Wagstaff, released from the East Suffolk Authority for three years under its "adoption" scheme, joined the staff as teacher at the Secondary School and for teacher training duties. His services have been invaluable and have permitted a much more comprehensive teacher training programme. More supervision of infant, junior and senior teachers in school and on courses has been possible by the teamwork of Mrs. Kerr, Mr. Wagstaff and the Education Officer. The association with East Suffolk has been of great benefit to the island, not only through the provision of the Education Officer and teachers but through correspondence between schools and in other ways. It is hoped that it may long continue.

Further Education

Though scope for further education is severely restricted by lack of staff and other facilities, needlework and lacemaking classes have continued and increased. A shorthand class begun in 1953 continued until late in 1954 when the tutor left the island. Nearly a dozen young clerks were able to qualify in speed tests and have proved the value of their training in Government and private offices. A further education class for young Government Officers was begun by the Education Officer in January, 1955, and continues.

Its aim is to give these youngsters an opportunity to continue their general education by supervised studies. Two recreational folk-dance classes, begun by Mrs. Kerr in Jamestown and Longwood, continue to attract numbers of young people.

Adviser's Visit

A short but welcome visit was paid by Sir Christopher Cox, Chief Educational Adviser to the Secretary of State, in March, 1955. In one crowded day he was able to visit most of the schools, see and talk to teachers and pupils and to discuss with His Excellency the Governor and the Education Officer the problems affecting education on the island.

PUBLIC HEALTH

St. Helena could be classified by any standard as a healthy island.

Being free of the main vectors of tropical diseases, there is no problem posed by any of the manifold ills which occur in the more definitely tropical colonies. Thus the people in the island suffer mainly European diseases and of some of these there appears to be a lower incidence than would be expected in a comparable European population. In the case of tuberculosis, for instance, the known incidence in England and Wales at the end of 1949 was 6 per 1,000 of the population, or over 30 cases in 5,000 people. In St. Helena, with a population of 5,000, the total T.B. incidence for 1954 and 1955 was three in each year and of these at least three were definitely imported from overseas. Whether this is due to climatic causes or to an acquired immunity cannot be said definitely. This may be known after a World Health Organisation survey in 1957.

No epidemics occurred in 1954, but in 1955 there was a widespread epidemic of influenza mainly mild in form, but causing great inconvenience to employers and considerable absenteeism in schools. An initial attack seemed to provide no immunity, as many relapses were noted.

Thirty-seven schoolchildren were immunized against diphtheria in 1954 and 42 in 1955.

Principal Diseases

Nervous complaints. A large proportion of patients seen in out-patient clinics are suffering from minor forms of anxiety neurosis. Possible aetiological factors for this may be the fact of living constantly on a small island, and possibly inbreeding of the population.

Respiratory Diseases and Tuberculosis. Asthma and bronchitis are common and in the case of asthma a familial predisposition is apparent. Tuberculosis is, however, uncommon. In 1954 only two pulmonary cases were diagnosed, one of which was imported. There was also one surgical case. In 1955, there were three cases, two pulmonary and one of tubercular meningitis in a child. This leads to the belief that there is a good degree of immunity against T.B. on the island. A survey in 1957 for finding out the exact position has been asked for from W.H.O.

Gastro-Intestinal Diseases. Various forms of dyspepsia are common ; many are probably of nervous origin. Peptic ulceration is present in about seven cases.

One case of gastric carcinoma died at the end of 1955.

Dysenteries. Two and three cases of amoebic dysentery were confirmed in 1954 and 1955 respectively. The disease is endemic on the island but not highly so. Mild cases of bacillary dysentery occurred during the two years. In the absence of a laboratory, the type of organism cannot be identified. From experience of this disease the probable organism is a Flexner type.

Venereal Diseases. The occurrence of primary syphilis has not been seen over the two years. Many cases of tertiary syphilis, particularly of the cutaneous variety, have been suspected.

Leprosy. During 1954 and part of 1955, two cases of nerve leprosy were treated and finally cured, or more accurately "burnt out". The Leper Hospital was closed.

Helminthic Diseases. Ascariasis is the only helminthic disease. This condition, which is mainly confined to one area of the island, is being dealt with by re-organising the sewage disposal system in the area concerned, and by propaganda and the use of "Entacyl" (*Piperazine Adipate*) on a large scale.

Poliomyelitis. There was one fatal case of poliomyelitis in 1955.

Facilities and Policy

There is one general hospital in the Colony and this was being rebuilt in 1955 according to modern design and layout. The hospital staff consists of a Charge Sister with two other Sisters, nine locally recruited nurses and three male orderlies. Two doctors, the Senior Medical Officer and a Medical Officer, share the duties in the hospital and also visit the five clinics in the island including Jamestown.

A 20-bed mental hospital is run by a Charge Nurse under the supervision of the Medical Officer. A greatly improved institution on a new site was opened in October, 1954. Patients totalled 13 in 1954 and 17 in 1955.

Public health is in the charge of the Senior Medical Officer assisted by a Public Health Inspector and an Assistant Public Health Inspector. A Board of Public Health, representative of departmental and island opinion, meets once a quarter to discuss current problems and make recommendations on public health policy.

There are no doctors or nurses working for missions or companies, nor any private practitioners.

The policy of the main hospital is to admit the more serious cases, particularly those needing operation and those whose homes are so inaccessible that domiciliary visiting is almost impossible.

Practically all midwifery cases are admitted to hospital as there are only two locally trained midwives ; one assists the Health Sister, the other is receiving her final year's training. The Health Sister sees all ante-natal cases and arranges their admission. She also holds child welfare clinics in strategic parts of the island, and with her assistant makes post-natal visits.

The Dental Department is supervised by the Senior Medical Officer. A new Ordinance, passed in 1955, regularises the practice of dentistry and provides for the employment of a Dental Nurse whose main function is to attend to the school children.

New quarters for Nursing Sisters were available for occupation in February, 1955.

General Hospital and Clinic Statistics

Out-patient attendances

	1954	1955
New Cases	1,995	2,095
Return Cases	360	652
<i>Hospital Admissions</i>	782	801

Out-patient Clinics

	1954	
	<i>New Cases</i>	<i>Return Cases</i>
Jamestown (Civil Hospital O.P.D.)	1,357	
Rural Health Centres { Longwood	382	360
{ Head O'Wain	83	
{ Luffkins	66	
{ Sandy Bay	107	
	<hr/> 1,995 <hr/>	<hr/> 360 <hr/>
	1955	
	<i>New Cases</i>	<i>Return Cases</i>
Jamestown (Civil Hospital O.P.D.)	1,412	
Rural Health Centres { Longwood	398	652
{ Head O'Wain	93	
{ Luffkins	87	
{ Sandy Bay	105	
	<hr/> 2,095 <hr/>	<hr/> 652 <hr/>

Capital expenditure on the new general hospital and mental hospital just completed amounted to about £33,400.

Developments in Public Health

A physiotherapy department has recently been instituted, the main function of which is to rehabilitate the many poliomyelitis cripples, a legacy from the epidemic of 1945. Good results have so far been obtained and with the walking aids from England, several cases are now on their feet after 10 years in wheel chairs.

In the field of sanitation, a campaign is being waged against ascariasis. The main centres of this disease are being assisted by the provision of safer sewage control methods under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector. At the same time intensive treatment of cases is being carried out with "Entacyl" (Piperazine Adipate) tablets.

Training

The staff of the general hospital does not permit of full teaching facilities for locally recruited nurses.

The St. Helena Branch of the British Red Cross Society was in a flourishing condition during the period. Over 40 persons gained elementary Red Cross Certificates, and seven of them have formed a detachment.

SOCIAL WELFARE

There is a unit of Boy Scouts and Cubs in Jamestown and units of Girl Guides and Brownies both in Jamestown and in the country districts. The annual camps of the Boy Scouts were attended by 82 Scouts in 1954 and 91 in 1955. A small annual Government grant is made to these movements.

The care and relief of the destitute is in the hands of the Poor Relief Board, a statutory body. An annual grant of £500 is made to the Board by the Government and about £1,400 is collected by the Board by means of rates. Membership of the Board is laid down by Ordinance; it consists of two Government officials nominated by the Governor, two members of the Advisory Council nominated by the Governor, and four elected ratepayers. There is at all times a ratepayers' majority.

The Board maintained a poor house with 19 and 21 inmates respectively in 1954 and 1955.

There are six friendly societies with a total membership of approximately 3,047. The functions of these societies differ, but in the main they provide for old-age pensions, sick relief pay, or burial expenses. They are subject to control by regulations made under the Friendly Societies Ordinance, Cap. 42.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING

Owing to the heavy programme of other essential works, mainly for the Health Department, no further houses could be erected during 1954 and 1955.

There is still a need for further housing and funds for this purpose have been applied for under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act for the period 1955 to 1960. It was hoped that work could be restarted either late in 1956 or early during 1957.

It is proposed to deal with the need for more housing by :
(a) providing more Government-built houses for renting, and
(b) subsidies to assist Islanders to build their own houses. The houses provided under (a) will be of concrete block construction, using steel windows, ant-resistant timber and asbestos roofing, etc. The houses under (b) will be mostly of the traditional type, *i.e.*, stone walls, timber windows and doors and asbestos or corrugated iron roofs.

Although it is cheaper for the Islanders to erect their own houses with stone walls, if they can obtain the stone in return for their own labour without any cash outlay, this method of building is not cheaper than building with concrete blocks if one has to provide and

pay labour to collect and dress the stone ; transport a far greater quantity of walling material for the necessary thicker walling ; and provide labour for the longer period that it takes to erect stone walls compared with erecting concrete block walls.

The erection of all Government housing, owing to the absence of building contractors on the island, has to be carried out by the Public Works Department. This, and the fact that the number of tradesmen on the island is very limited, naturally limits the provision of further houses. It is partly for this reason, as well as financial reasons, that the assistance to Islanders, by means of a subsidy, to build their own houses is greatly to be recommended.

Chapter 8: Legislation

The following legislation enacted during the years 1954 and 1955 is of interest.

1954

- Ordinance No. 4. *Electricity Ordinance*, provides for the granting of licences for the generation, distribution and supply of electricity.
- „ „ 9. *Forestry Ordinance*, provides for the establishment of a Forestry Advisory Committee, the constitution of National, Dedicated and protected Private Forests, the management and protection of such forests, and the making of rules for the preservation, development and general management of constituted forests, and repeals the Forestry Ordinance, Cap. 40.

1955

- „ „ 10. *Forestry (Amendment) Ordinance*, amends the principal Ordinance by providing for the establishment of controlled areas outside areas constituted as Forests.
- „ „ 12. *Dentists Ordinance*, provides for the regulation of the practice of dentistry in St. Helena.
- „ „ 14. *Green Mountain (Natural Resources) Protection Ordinance*, provides for the protection of the natural resources of Green Mountain in Ascension Island.
- „ „ 15. *Light Dues (St. Helena) Ordinance*, provides for the levying of light dues on ships calling at St. Helena, following the installation of navigation lights.

- Ordinance No. 16. *Public Holidays (Amendment) Ordinance*, amends certain sections of the principal Ordinance by providing for the granting of permission by the Governor for the opening of any of the scheduled undertakings or establishments either generally or for a limited period on any public holiday ; and for the payment of one day's pay in addition to his normal pay, or a day off in lieu with full pay on another day, to any person not in receipt of a monthly salary who is required to work on a public holiday as a result of such permission.
- „ „ 17. *Lord's Day (Observance) (Amendment) Ordinance*, enables the Governor to give permission for Sunday labour in special circumstances and provides for the payment of overtime therefor. Various other amendments to the principal Ordinance are also made.

Chapter 9: Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

The judicial organisation consists of :

The Supreme Court. The Governor as Acting Chief Justice presides over this Court which has full criminal and civil jurisdiction. Criminal cases on the calendar are dealt with according to English procedure as far as local circumstances permit, and prisoners have the right of trial by jury if they so elect. The Court, which is situated in Jamestown, also has Probate, Divorce and Admiralty Divisions. Appeal under certain circumstances is to the Privy Council.

The Magistrate's Court. The Magistrate is the Government Secretary, who is also a Justice of the Peace. There are four other Justices of the Peace, any two of whom can sit in the Magistrate's Court. There is a right of appeal to the Supreme Court.

The Small Debts Court. A Justice of the Peace is appointed by the Governor as Judge of this Court, which hears civil cases for the recovery of debts not exceeding £25.

The Juvenile Court. This is held by the Magistrate or Justices, and the only other persons present in court are the Police Prosecutor and the parents of the accused child. Children are not imprisoned. There is no remand home.

A person without legal training may act, with the approval of the Court, in the interests of the defendant or plead a cause in the Supreme Court. There are no practising solicitors.

Statistics of cases tried by the Courts are given at Appendix V.

POLICE

The members of the Police Force are recruited locally, but the Superintendent of the Force is a professional Police Officer appointed from the United Kingdom.

The strength of the Force is one Superintendent, two Sergeants and 10 Constables, two of whom perform a year's tour at Ascension Island.

Since 1950 eight-week courses of training in police duties and law have been given to the Force. A copy of Moriarty's *Police Law* has been issued to each member, the result being a more instructed attitude to their duties and, it is believed, greater public confidence in the Force.

A local auxiliary force of 20 Special Constables, which was formed in 1952, is functioning satisfactorily.

The Superintendent of Police is also Passport Control Officer and Immigration Officer.

Crime

Serious crime is not prevalent on the island. Many of the minor offences, particularly petty thieving of money, are committed by juveniles of school age, but since there is no probation service or remand home, these offenders tend to be brought before the Police Superintendent for admonition. Whipping was abolished in 1950.

In the more serious cases juveniles are brought before the Juvenile Court and in many prosecutions the Justices have ordered them to report each Saturday morning, during four to eight weeks, at the local police stations for light work and supervision. This has proved satisfactory.

In 1953 the Vicar of Jamestown accepted the post (unpaid) of Court Missioner; hitherto no outside body had interested itself in persons on probation or in after care.

PRISONS

The Superintendent of Police is also Superintendent of the Prison in Jamestown and has a staff of two—the warden and his wife who acts as matron. Five male prisoners were committed to prison during 1954 and six in 1955. There is no special provision for first offenders or for the segregation of recidivists. Work consists of general labour inside the prison and, when required, outside cleaning or clearance of sites.

There are no Borstal or similar institutions, nor do they appear necessary, although a detention centre for juveniles might be an advantage.

Chapter 10: Public Utilities and Public Works

WATER

There is no central water works on the island. However, at least 80 per cent of the population have a piped water supply served by various separate systems covering all but the more remote parts. The supply has been adequate for all domestic needs and has also been available to all ships requiring water.

LIGHTING

A new electricity service began to operate at the beginning of September, 1954. Electricity is now available for the whole of Jamestown, both for lighting, cooking, etc., and power, at a flat rate of 6d. per unit. The electricity undertaking is privately owned by Messrs. Solomon and Company (St. Helena) Limited.

Two 112 H.P. Blackstone diesel generating units provide 400 volt, 3 phase alternating current at 50 cycles, with 230 volt available for domestic use. These generating units have each a potential output of 75 kwh. but as one only is used, the other being kept in reserve, the total available output is that of one unit.

There is no gas-producing plant on the island.

TRANSPORT

There is no public transport system. There are, however, sufficient taxis available for all needs, as well as a few "drive yourself" cars that can be hired by visitors and others for varying periods. In spite of the high cost of running and maintaining vehicles, owing to the fact that practically all roads have steep gradients, the hire charges for taxis and cars are reasonable.

There are no railways, inland waterways or aerodromes.

TELEPHONES

There is a telephone system serving practically all districts. The charges are as follows :

		<i>Cost per Year</i>		
		£	s.	d.
Business Lines	each instrument	8	0	0
Residential Lines	" "	7	0	0
Party Lines and Lines with Extensions, except internal house extensions, at three quarters of the above rates :—				
Business Lines	" "	6	0	0
Residential Lines	" "	5	5	0
Internal House Extensions at one quarter of the rate for residential Lines				
	" "	1	15	0

There are call boxes available in most districts.

The telephone system was taken over by the Public Works Department at the end of 1953.

PUBLIC WORKS

The major works carried out by the Public Works Department during the two years included :

Erection of new mental hospital.

Erection of new Sisters' quarters.

Erection of new general hospital (75 per cent completed by the end of 1955).

Installation of navigation lights.

Installation of wharf lighting.

Start of constructing a new Poor House.

Erection of new classroom block at Country School.

Chapter 11: Communications

SHIPPING

Thirty-eight merchant ships of a total of 253,530 tons called during 1955, 22 being en route to South African ports, 15 to the United Kingdom and one to the United States of America ; H.M.S. *Sparrow* also visited the Colony in September, 1955.

The only port in St. Helena is Jamestown, which is an open roadstead with good anchorages for ships of any size.

Navigation Lights

The installation of navigation lights on the beacons at Ladder Hill and Munden's Point, to assist ships calling at the port of Jamestown during the hours of darkness, was completed in July, 1955.

The fixed red light at the north end of the wharf has been replaced by an all-round white light.

The navigation lights are switched on if the Harbour Master is requested to do so at least twelve hours before the expected arrival of a ship.

ROADS

There are 64½ miles of motor roads on the island, the majority of which are usable by motor traffic in all weather.

Further road improvements were made during 1954 and 1955 including the bitumen surfacing of the three mile stretch between White Gate and Hutts Gate. This, and previous similar improvements, now make it possible to maintain the island roads as a whole in better condition than before.

POST AND TELEGRAPH SERVICES

The post office in Jamestown is the only post office in the Colony. Letter and parcel mails are carried by Union Castle ships which make monthly calls both on their way from the United Kingdom to South Africa and also in the reverse direction. Farrell Lines ships,

en route to Cape Town from New York, call at intervals of six weeks and mails for South Africa are also despatched by these ships. There is no direct air mail service to or from the Colony. Air mail correspondence is, however, accepted and despatched by surface mail to the United Kingdom and South Africa for onward conveyance by air to the countries of destination. In addition to an ordinary money order service there is a telegraph money order service between both the United Kingdom and South Africa. British postal orders are issued and paid. There is no internal postal service in the Colony. Telegrams are accepted by Messrs. Cable and Wireless, Ltd.

Chapter 12: Press and Information Services

The Education Officer and his staff function also as an Information Department. Its main activities comprise the provision of library facilities, cinema shows and periodicals. The large public library in Jamestown is well stocked with books for loan and with periodicals and information material. The six small branch libraries in country districts are unfortunately little used. Cinema shows, consisting of newsreels, interest and documentary films, are provided every month at each of six centres in country districts; a portable generator and sound projector are used. These shows are deservedly popular and attract good audiences, many members of which walk considerable distances over rough tracks to attend.

There are no newspapers. A weekly cyclostyled *News Review*, published by the Department, keeps people in touch with world and local events. A new venture in 1955 was the Government-sponsored *Wirebird*. This small, printed monthly magazine fulfills other functions of a local newspaper and its circulation of nearly 500 copies indicates its success.

The *Official Gazette* is published periodically at 1s. per copy.

PART III

Chapter 1 : Geography and Climate

ST. HELENA is situated in the South Atlantic Ocean, 955 miles south of the Equator, 760 miles south-east of Ascension Island and 4,477 miles from Southampton in latitude $15^{\circ} 55'$ south and longitude $5^{\circ} 42'$ west. The nearest point of the West African continent is 1,140 miles distant and the South American coast is 1,800 miles to the westward.

St. Helena is $10\frac{1}{2}$ miles long by $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles wide and has an area of 47 miles of rugged and mountainous country of volcanic origin. The highest peaks are Actaeon and Diana, of approximately 2,700 feet. The only town and port is Jamestown. Greenwich mean time is used.

St. Helena, although within the tropics, enjoys a mild and equable climate owing to the constant south-east trade winds. At Jamestown the maximum shade temperature rarely exceeds 90° and the minimum is rarely below 57° , while upland temperatures average 10° lower.

Rainfall figures (in inches) over the past ten years are as follows :

	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Plantation	30.30	41.19	33.61	32.98	38.45	34.42	28.53	33.59	36.98	36.94
Hutt's Gate	23.03	42.26	33.23	33.04	43.23	37.33	30.79	29.56	36.81	38.47
Briars	17.91	25.70	21.44	21.59	27.48	19.81	18.75	22.60	23.97	24.10
Jamestown	5.67	9.26	8.33	6.39	17.19	6.39	5.15	9.60	10.29	10.00

The St. Helena Meteorological Station at Hutt's Gate (2,066 feet) recorded the following observations during 1954 and 1955 :

1954 Month	Amt. of Cloud	Rainfall (Inches)			Weather No. of days of				Wind No. of observations of									
		Total	Max.	Date	Rain	Fog	Over- Cast	Clear Sky	Gales	Thun- der	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	Calm
Jan.	6.6	1.69	.54	4th	17	8	10	2	-	-	-	2	11	77	30	-	-	4
Feb.	7.5	4.23	.99	25th	25	18	13	1	-	-	-	-	4	81	27	-	-	-
Mar.	6.5	3.27	.83	18th	21	7	6	2	-	-	-	2	13	81	27	1	-	-
April	6.6	2.33	.54	11th	21	13	8	2	-	-	-	7	9	87	10	1	-	6
May	6.9	3.57	.46	7th	23	7	7	-	1	-	-	4	13	105	2	-	-	-
June	7.1	6.39	1.53	3rd	24	15	14	-	-	-	-	5	18	84	5	-	-	8
July	7.3	5.60	1.34	26th	25	17	21	1	-	-	-	1	11	106	5	-	-	-
Aug.	7.3	1.44	.33	2nd	12	3	20	-	-	-	-	-	16	98	8	-	-	2
Sept.	7.9	3.73	.41	9th	23	20	26	-	-	-	-	-	24	87	9	-	-	-
Oct.	7.7	1.85	.27	3rd	18	10	18	4	-	-	-	-	27	96	1	-	-	-
Nov.	7.1	1.0	.24	5th	11	6	16	2	-	1	-	2	18	85	15	-	-	-
Dec.	7.0	1.71	.26	18th	18	7	10	2	-	-	-	1	19	91	13	-	-	-
Total	85.5	36.81	Max. 1.53 on June 3rd		238	131	169	20	1	1	-	24	183	1078	152	2	-	21
Mean	7.1																	

1954 Month	Mean Pressure	Air Temperatures Means of Absolute Minimum and Maximum						Tension of Vapour	Relative Humidity	
		Mean	Min.	Max.	Min.	Date	Max.	Date	Mean	Mean
Jan. . .	1015.2	62.5	59.5	66.0	58	1, 3, 4, 7	74	31	16.7	87
Feb. . .	1014.9	63.7	61.1	66.6	57	18	72	13, 24	18.5	93
Mar. . .	1014.9	64.5	61.5	68.0	60	1, 4, 12	75	14	18.2	88
April . .	1016.0	64.2	61.5	67.2	59	18, 19	74	3, 6	18.2	89
May . . .	1017.6	61.1	58.9	63.7	56	26, 28	72	7	16.5	90
June . . .	1018.7	58.7	56.6	61.4	54	24	69	20	15.3	91
July . . .	1019.7	56.5	54.3	58.7	52	29	66	27, 29	14.7	94
Aug. . . .	1019.7	56.6	54.9	59.1	53	3, 12, 23	65	16, 17	14.0	91
Sept. . . .	1019.4	55.7	53.9	57.7	52	17, 18	62	28	14.7	97
Oct.	1018.5	56.7	54.5	59.1	53	2, 12	64	12, 21	15.0	96
Nov.	1017.5	57.4	54.5	60.1	53	6, 7, 8	69	12	14.7	91
Dec.	1016.4	59.5	56.7	62.5	55	1, 6, 18	7	13	15.9	93
Total . . .	12208.5	717.1	687.4	750.1	ABS. 52 on July 29 and Sept. 17		ABS. 75 on Mar. 14th		192.4	1100
Mean . . .	1017.4	59.8	57.3	62.5	18				16.0	91.7

1955 Month	Mean Cloud	Rainfall			Weather No. of days of						Wind No. of observations of							
		Total	Max.	Date	Rain	Fog	Clear Sky	Over- cast	Gales	Thun- der	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	Calm
Jan.	6.3	.66	.23	20	11	6	8	7	1	—	—	8	19	87	8	—	—	2
Feb.	6.9	6.52	1.08	22	22	7	1	1	18	—	—	1	22	84	5	—	—	—
Mar.	6.6	5.10	.72	9	25	9	—	13	—	—	—	1	24	73	24	1	—	5
April	7.1	4.0	.57	19	27	9	2	10	—	—	—	2	19	66	28	—	—	1
May	6.2	3.10	.79	27	15	8	3	17	—	—	—	1	3	15	72	31	—	2
June	6.7	3.65		3	18	9	3	16	—	—	—	3	23	80	14	—	—	—
July	6.9	4.08	.45	17	26	14	1	16	—	—	—	1	19	85	19	—	—	—
Aug.	7.3	4.05	.70	14	25	13	2	13	—	—	—	2	11	87	23	1	—	—
Sept.	7.7	2.25	.30	20	20	18	1	25	—	—	—	—	2	92	26	—	—	—
Oct.	7.7	2.30	.40	9	21	19	—	16	—	—	—	—	14	87	23	—	—	—
Nov.	7.3	1.15	.26	20	14	9	—	18	—	—	—	3	6	89	22	—	—	—
Dec.	7.1	1.83	.57	20	20	9	2	18	—	—	—	—	9	96	18	—	—	1
Total	83.8	38.69	Max 1.08	on 22nd Feb.	244	130	23	187	—	—	1	24	183	998	241	2	—	11
Mean	6.9																	

1955 Month	Mean Pressure	Air Temperatures Means of Absolute Minimum and Maximum						Tension Vapour	Relative Humidity	
		Mean	Min.	Max.	Min.	Date	Max. Date	Mean	Mean	
Jan.	1016.1	62.5	59.2	66.5	57	6, 7	76	27, 29 30	16.5	87
Feb.	1015.2	63.4	60.5	66.9	58	24	74	14, 15	18.0	91
Mar.	1014.7	64.3	61.9	67.2	59	2, 24	74	1, 4, 5	18.7	91
April	1015.3	62.6	60.3	65.3	57	28, 29	74	30	18.4	93
May	1017.2	61.6	59.1	64.7	56	25	74	1	16.6	89
June	1018.6	58.5	56.3	60.9	53	13, 16	68	8	15.2	91
July	1020.0	55.7	53.6	58.1	51	9, 20	67	13	13.9	91
Aug.	1019.5	55.0	52.7	57.5	50	2, 3	63	20	13.4	91
Sept.	1018.7	54.8	52.5	57.9	51	1, 4, 28	64	17	13.9	95
Oct.	1017.8	55.3	52.8	57.9	52	1, 2, 3	64	16, 19	14.1	95
Nov.	1016.8	57.4	55.0	59.9	54	1, 23	66	4	14.9	93
Dec.	1016.5	58.5	55.4	61.6	54	5, 6, 10	61	30	14.8	89
Total	12206.4	709.6	679.3	744.4	ABS. Min. on Aug. 9, 20		ABS. Max. on Jan. 27, 29, & 30		188.4	1096
Mean	1017.2	59.1	56.6	62.0	50		76		15.7	91

Chapter 2: History

St. Helena was discovered by the Portuguese navigator, Juan de Nova Castella, on 21st May, 1502, the anniversary of St. Helena, the mother of the Emperor Constantine. He landed at the valley where Jamestown now stands and built a chapel there which gave the valley the name "Chapel Valley" by which it is still locally known.

The Portuguese kept the discovery of the island a secret and used it as a port of call for their East India Fleet. However, in 1588 Captain Thomas Cavendish, commanding H.M.S. *Desire*, called at St. Helena on his voyage round the world. He stayed 12 days and recorded the presence of pheasants and partridges, which are still to be found, and quantities of fruit in Chapel Valley.

Thereafter the English and Dutch merchant ships called frequently to water and refit. In 1633 the island was annexed by the Dutch but not occupied. The English East India Company seized St. Helena in 1659, but the Dutch re-took it on New Year's Day, 1673.

On 5th May, 1673, the English recaptured the island and the East India Company held it under Charter from Charles II until 1834. The Emperor Napoleon was exiled on the island from 1815 until his death on 5th May, 1821.

On 22nd April, 1834, the island was brought under the direct government of the Crown after the East India Company had administered it for 162 years. In those days the annual expenditure was about £90,000.

In 1840 the French Frigate, *La Belle Poule*, with the Prince of Joinville on board removed Napoleon's remains to France.

The first Bishop of St. Helena, Dr. Piers C. Claughton, landed on 30th October, 1859.

In 1860 His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh visited St. Helena.

In 1874 the first New Zealand flax (*Phormium tenax*) was introduced and, although at first the experiment offered little hope of commercial success, hemp is now the principal export of the Colony and the growing and manufacture of it is the main industry.

The Zulu Chief Denizula, son of the great Cetewayo, was interned in St. Helena from 1890 until 1897, when he and his retinue were sent back to Zululand.

In November, 1899, the submarine cable from Capetown was landed at St. Helena by the Eastern Telegraph Company; it was the first stage of the England to South Africa cable.

In 1900 General Cronje and his wife were sent to St. Helena with over 500 Boer prisoners of war. By 1902 there was a total of nearly 6,000 prisoners of war on the island.

On 4th August, 1925, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales landed from H.M.S. *Repulse* and remained on the island for two days.

On 29th April, 1947, Their Majesties King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, accompanied by Their Royal Highnesses the Princess Elizabeth and the Princess Margaret, landed from H.M.S. *Vanguard* and toured the island. His Majesty presented the Colony with his Royal Standard as a memento of this unofficial visit.

Chapter 3 : Administration

The Government is administered by a Governor aided by an Executive and an Advisory Council. The Governor alone makes Ordinances, there being no Legislative Council, but power is reserved to Her Majesty in Council to legislate by Order.

The Executive Council consists of the Government Secretary and the Colonial Treasurer as *ex officio* members and such other nominated members holding office under the Crown as may be approved.

The Advisory Council consists of six persons not holding any office under the Crown, appointed by the Governor under the Public Seal of the Colony. Two Councillors are appointed from nominees submitted by the Friendly Societies and one Councillor represents the interests of the Phormium flax industry.

Under the provisions of the Poor Relief Ordinance, Cap. 90, a Board was created with powers to impose and collect local rates on immovable property. The Board is responsible for the maintenance of the poor house and for outdoor relief of the poor and distressed. The Board also carries out duties of a municipal nature, such as control of the public market and slaughter-house and street lighting. The Board consists of two official members nominated by the Governor, two ratepaying members of Advisory Council nominated by the Governor, and four ratepayers elected by the ratepayers at their annual meeting ; there is, therefore, a non-official majority. The chairman is nominated by the Governor from amongst the members.

Chapter 4 : Weights and Measures

The law relating to weights and measures is governed by the Weights and Measures Ordinance, Cap. 126. Imperial weights and measures are in use.

The Superintendent of Police is the Inspector of Weights and Measures, and undertakes all necessary inspections.

PART IV

Ascension

GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE

The island of Ascension lies in the South Atlantic in latitude 7° 56' south and longitude 14° 25' west and has an area of some 34 square miles. The island is a barren, rocky peak of volcanic origin and destitute of vegetation except at the top of the peak called Green Mountain (height 2,870 feet), but despite this the land supports considerable livestock.

The climate is definitely tropical but dry. Rainfall in 1954 was 8·54 inches in Georgetown and 28·1 inches on Green Mountain ; in 1955, 7·6 inches were recorded in Georgetown and 29·2 inches on Green Mountain. In Georgetown the maximum temperature recorded in 1954 was 89°F. and the minimum 69°F. In 1955 the temperatures recorded were about the same.

The phenomenon known as "rollers", when very heavy swells are experienced, was reported on 104 occasions during 1954 and 107 in 1955 and very large rollers on seven and 19 occasions in each year respectively.

HISTORY

The island was discovered on Ascension Day by a Portuguese navigator and remained uninhabited until after the arrival of Napoleon in St. Helena in 1815, when a Naval garrison was placed there. The island was under the supervision of the Admiralty until it was made a Dependency of St. Helena by Letters Patent dated 12th September, 1922, and placed in the control of the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

ADMINISTRATION

The administration of the island is a purely domestic affair as there are no inhabitants unconnected with Cable and Wireless, Limited, other than two constables. The Government of St. Helena is represented by the Manager of the Company, who is appointed by the Governor as Resident Magistrate, and another selected officer of the Company who is appointed Justice of the Peace, and two St. Helena police constables. The Resident Magistrate is responsible for law and order in the Dependency.

Postal work is undertaken by the wife of a member of the Company appointed by the Governor.

POPULATION

In 1954 the European employees of Cable and Wireless, together with their families, totalled 40 (21 males, 14 females and five children) and St. Helenian employees with their families, including domestics,

amounted to 104 males, 16 females and 13 children. With the two St. Helenian policemen the total was 173. There were no deaths and no marriages during 1954. One birth of a St. Helenian was registered.

In 1955 the total population was 196, composed of 46 Europeans and 150 St. Helenians. There were no deaths or marriages during 1955, and only one birth of a St. Helenian.

HEALTH

The Company has a medical officer and during 1954 he paid 331 visits and gave 1,401 treatments. In 1955, the figures were 408 visits and a total of 1,065 treatments. The health of the community was good and there were no serious illnesses or accidents.

AGRICULTURE

A farm is maintained by the Company on Green Mountain ; the following are the figures of stock :

	1954	1955		1954	1955
Bulls . .	1	2	Boars . .	1	2
Cows . .	8	9	Sows . .	5	5
Heifers . .	2	—	Store Pigs . .	10	3
Yearlings . .	—	3	Piglets . .	24	39
Calves . .	5	7	Donkeys . .	3	4

Sheep and lambs were estimated at 650 in 1954 and 900 in 1955.

Animals Slaughtered

	1954	1955
Pigs	29	29
Cattle	4	2
Sheep	175	224

The farm produced the following quantities of foodstuffs during 1954 and 1955 :

	1954	1955
Meat	11,232 lb.	11,248 lb.
Bananas	9,978	13,382
Grenadillas	232	246
Pawpaws	44	79
Vegetables	24,071 lb.	17,120 lb.
Milk	23,898 pts.	25,576 pts.
Potatoes (new)	2,180 lb.	3,371 lb.
Potatoes (sweet)	121,589 lb.	120,548 lb.

WILD LIFE

There are some wild donkeys, rabbits, wild cats, a few goats and a few partridges. Only rabbits and wild cats are permitted to be shot.

Sea-bird life is very plentiful ; in particular the island is famed for the vast numbers of the Wide-awake or Hack-backed tern (*Sterna fuliginosa*) which breed there.

All wild life is rigidly protected by Ordinance. Turtles abound at certain seasons and the catching of them is controlled by licence.

The waters around the island teem with fish ; shark are very numerous as are also barracuda, tuna, bonito and multitudes of a local small fish called Black fish.

VISITORS

The Governor visited the island from the 2nd to 11th June, 1954, and on the 15th November, 1955 (in transit). The Bishop of St. Helena paid a visit in February, 1954, and again early in 1955.

H.M.S. *Pelican* (Captain A. Davies, R.N.) visited the island from the 1st to 3rd September, 1954, and H.M.S. *Sparrow* (Captain I. F. M. Newnham, C.B.E., R.N.) from the 14th to 16th September, 1955.

The Yacht *Muriel Stephens* visited the island from the 17th to 19th February, 1954. The Yachts *Yankee* and *Wanderer III* also visited the island during 1955.

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AGRICULTURE

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	1954	1955		1954	1955
Bulls . .	1	2	Boars . .	1	2
Cows . .	8	9	Sows . .	5	5
Heifers . .	2	—	Store Pigs . .	10	3
Yearlings . .	—	3	Piglets . .	24	39
Calves . .	5	7	Donkeys . .	3	4

Sheep and lambs were estimated at 650 in 1954 and 900 in 1955.

Animals Slaughtered

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There are some wild donkeys, rabbits, wild cats, a few goats and a few partridges. Only rabbits and wild cats are permitted to be shot.

Sea-bird life is very plentiful ; in particular the island is famed for the vast numbers of the Wide-awake or Hack-backed tern (*Sterna fuliginosa*) which breed there.

All wild life is rigidly protected by Ordinance. Turtles abound at certain seasons and the catching of them is controlled by licence.

The waters around the island teem with fish ; shark are very numerous as are also barracuda, tuna, bonito and multitudes of a local small fish called Black fish.

VISITORS

The Governor visited the island from the 2nd to 11th June, 1954, and on the 15th November, 1955 (in transit). The Bishop of St. Helena paid a visit in February, 1954, and again early in 1955.

H.M.S. *Pelican* (Captain A. Davies, R.N.) visited the island from the 1st to 3rd September, 1954, and H.M.S. *Sparrow* (Captain I. F. M. Newnham, C.B.E., R.N.) from the 14th to 16th September, 1955.

The Yacht *Muriel Stephens* visited the island from the 17th to 19th February, 1954. The Yachts *Yankee* and *Wanderer III* also visited the island during 1955.

PART V

Tristan da Cunha

GENERAL REVIEW

THE year 1954 was undoubtedly a prosperous one for Tristan da Cunha. For the first time since the Administration of the island was taken over by the Colonial Office in 1950, there was prospect financially of embarking on some of the much needed services on the island. Schemes for the establishment of a piped water supply and sewerage system have been under consideration and it was hoped to be able to construct an additional ward to the hospital.

Towards the end of 1955 the Archbishop of Cape Town visited the island in H.M.S. *Magpie* and confirmed 19 children. Members of the Gough Island Expedition also travelled in *Magpie* on the second stage of their journey to Gough Island.

During their six weeks stay on Tristan da Cunha, members of the Expedition took advantage of the opportunity to bore and map a peat bog for possible use by the islanders. The depth of the peat averages between four and five feet, enough to last the islanders several years and thereby conserve further the diminishing wood resources of the island. They also carried out a survey of the bird population and made a photographic record of the various aspects of the island's agriculture.

The construction of a village hall is being undertaken as a community project. The preparation of the site was completed during August, 1955, in readiness for the prefabricated hall, the parts of which were lying in Cape Town awaiting shipment to the island.

Although the habits and attitudes of the islanders are still at times affected by the influence of the past, there are signs that they are settling down to wage earning through steady work to the benefit of the community as a whole.

GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE

The main island, which is about 2,000 miles west of Cape Town and 1,500 miles south-south-west of St. Helena, is a volcanic cone 6,760 feet high with a crater lake at the summit and numerous subsidiary craters, set on a roughly rectangular plinth which is bounded by precipices of one to two thousand feet in height. Below these precipices are a number of plateaus on the largest of which, on the north-west of the island, is situated the Settlement of Edinburgh (the only permanently inhabited locality in the group). The island is nearly circular in shape with an area of 40 square miles. Below 5,000 feet it is thickly covered with vegetation, the eastern half being densely wooded. Permanent springs provide the settlement with abundant water.

The uninhabited islands of the group are Inaccessible and Nightingale, about 20 miles west-south-west and south-south-west respectively of Tristan, and Gough Island, 230 miles south-south-east. Inaccessible is rather like Tristan in appearance, with precipices rising from small coastal plateaus in the north and elsewhere from very narrow beaches ; it is three miles by one and a half miles in extent. Nightingale is only one mile by three-quarters of a mile in extent ; it is covered by dense tussock grass and there are a few patches of woodland round the two peaks, the taller of which rises to 1,200 feet. Adjoining Nightingale are two small islets to the north, Middle and Stoltenhoff. Gough Island has an area of 35 square miles and is well wooded and watered.

All the islands are surrounded by extensive beds of kelp which have some effect in moderating the swell. In the absence of any sheltered inlets or anchorages, landing is wholly dependent on there being sufficient lee.

The climate is temperate and typically oceanic, with a well distributed rainfall, rather high humidity, tendency to strong winds and to rapid changes of weather and temperature.

Regular weather observations were first made by the Norwegian Scientific Expedition in 1938. In 1942 a meteorological station was established by the Royal Navy ; it was taken over by the South African Government after the war. The maximum temperature recorded since 1942 is 78.1 degrees Fahrenheit and the minimum 39.2 degrees Fahrenheit. Rainfall averages about 66 inches a year.

Between June and October the upper part of the Peak is often snow covered, and sleety snow and hail are occasionally experienced to sea level. Thunderstorms are rare, but violent gales occur three to four times a year.

HISTORY AND ADMINISTRATION

The islands were discovered by a Portuguese fleet under the command of Admiral Tristao da Cunha in March, 1506, and first sighted by a British vessel, *The Globe*, in 1610. The first recorded landing was by a party from the Dutch ship *Heemstede* on 7th February, 1643.

In 1655 an expedition was sent by Van Riebeeck, Governor of the Cape, to make a thorough exploration of the potentialities of the islands, but reported unfavourably, as did a Dutch East India Company survey in 1696. The East India Company had also planned an expedition in 1684, which came to nothing, and it was not until 1760 that the English captain Nightingale is presumed to have landed at the island which now bears his name. In 1790 a party of American sealers spent seven months ashore and traces of their encampment were found by a French expedition of 1793, which made the first favourable report on the islands.

On 27th December, 1810, three Americans settled on Tristan, which since then has never been without inhabitants, though by 1812 their number was for a time reduced to one. These settlers, after a short-lived show of independence, had sought British protection, but it was not till Napoleon's exile to St. Helena that on

14th August, 1816, H.M.S. *Falmouth* landed a small British garrison and laid formal claim to the islands. The garrison was withdrawn in 1817, and the flag hauled down, but three of them headed by Corporal William Glass of Kelso, Scotland, his wife and two children, elected to remain and founded the present colony.

Its status remained somewhat uncertain until 1876, when an Order in Council, declaring Tristan da Cunha and its subsidiary islands to be under the British Crown and making some provision as to judicial supervision by visiting naval vessels, was drafted and acted upon, though the Order was never formally completed. By this time the population had increased to 85 ; new settlers included English, Dutch, American and St. Helenian elements (to which a few years later were added strong Italian and Irish strains).

The years from 1817 to 1876 had been prosperous, frequent contact with the outside world being maintained through the visits of whalers, East Indiamen and men-o'-war. Outstanding events of the period had been the visit of the Duke of Edinburgh (after whom the Settlement was named) in 1867, and the despatch to the island by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel of the first missionary and teacher, the Reverend W. F. Taylor, who stayed from 1851 to 1857. He was not however, replaced until 1881 when the Reverend E. H. Dodgson, brother of Lewis Carroll, was appointed and stayed till 1884, returning again for three more years in 1886 after receiving the news of the Boat Disaster of 1885.

This significant event, which involved the disappearance of 15 men on their way to or from a passing ship, marked the beginning of decline. The loss of most of the able-bodied men was in fact less responsible for this decline than the infestation of the island by rats dating from a shipwreck in 1882, and the extermination of most of the seals and whales. As early as 1888 the replacement of sail by steam had resulted in only five ships being sighted in a full year.

By 1904 the population was down to 71. No mail was received from England between 1906 and 1916. Finally the Reverend J. G. Barrow, who served on the island from 1906 to 1909, was not replaced until 1922. From that date a missionary teacher has been maintained on the island with only short breaks. But the deterioration resulting from nearly half a century's isolation and dependence on charity, marked by illiteracy and pauperisation and accentuated by increasing population with no parallel increase of resources, is still far from being overcome.

In 1932 the Reverend A. G. Partridge, who was on his second tour of service, was officially recognised as Honorary Commissioner and Magistrate (a step taken because a Brazilian scientific expedition, which never materialised, was due to visit the islands). In this capacity he appointed a headman and headwoman and set up an Island Council to which leading citizens were nominated. These appointments have since been continued.

By Letters Patent dated 12th January, 1938, the status of Tristan da Cunha including Nightingale, Inaccessible and Gough Islands, was finally clarified, when they were made dependencies of

St. Helena. It is of interest to note that Tristan belonged to the Diocese of St. Helena from 1859 until 1951 but has now reverted to the Archiepiscopal Diocese of Cape Town.

In 1937-38 a Norwegian Scientific Expedition visited the islands for four months and the first accurate survey of the main island was completed by Mr. A. B. Crawford, an Englishman attached to the expedition. In 1942 a unit of the South African Defence Force built a meteorological and wireless station which was manned for the duration of the war by the Royal Navy. After the war it was taken over and maintained by the South African Government.

The opening of this station not only brought to an end the period of the island's isolation but paved the way to freedom from dependence on charity ; for it was the Royal Navy chaplain, the Reverend C. P. Lawrence, who recognised the possibilities of a crawfish industry at Tristan. Largely owing to his efforts an agreement for the development of this industry was concluded with a South African company on 9th December, 1948, following an exploratory expedition at the beginning of the year. The agreement led to the appointment of an Administrator, following the enactment of St. Helena Ordinance No. 8 of 1948. The application of certain laws of St. Helena was provided for under Ordinance No. 3 of 1949.

In January, 1949, the Tristan Exploration Company (now the Tristan da Cunha Development Company) began its operations. The S.P.G. Chaplain, the Reverend D. I. Luard, was appointed Acting Administrator and was succeeded by the first substantive Administrator in January, 1950. The present Administrator, Mr. P. R. Forsyth Thompson, took up his duties on 8th November, 1954. The existing semi-official Island Council was incorporated into the new administration and given legal recognition on 10th March, 1952, by means of the Tristan da Cunha By-Laws Ordinance. The Ordinance empowers the Administrator to make and enforce by-laws and levy local rates and taxes. In making by-laws the Administrator is required to consult the Island Council, although it is a purely advisory body, and to obtain the approval of the Secretary of State. The Island Council consists of ten men and five women, the Headman, the Headwoman, the Resident Chaplain, Company representatives and the Administrator. It controls the Island Council funds which cover local revenue and expenditure.

FINANCE

There is a Tristan da Cunha Administration Fund for general administration purposes, an Island Council Fund and a Trust Fund.

The Administration Fund showed a surplus of £43,930 at the end of 1954 and an estimated surplus of £42,685 for 1955 as compared with the surplus of £21,141 for 1953. This sharp rise in the reserves is due mainly to the sale of the new pictorial issue of Tristan da Cunha postage stamps. This source of revenue, however, is likely to drop progressively from year to year as the issue loses philatelic novelty, and only the roughest estimate is possible of what the revenue from stamps will be in the coming year.

The Island Council Fund had surpluses of £114 and £126 in 1954 and 1955 respectively as compared with £64 in 1952 and £35 in 1953. Revenue collected in 1954 included £77 for undeclared sealskins exported during 1953 and 1954. It is hoped that with careful control a small sealskin industry can be established which will provide a regular source of income to the Island Council Fund. Revenue collected locally in 1955 amounted to £234 of which £132 was from medical fees. A grant from the Administration Fund for the upkeep of the Station amounted to £100 in 1954 and in 1955 a grant of £1,000 was made to the Island Council Fund, £625 for welfare and £375 for education.

Various grants were made from the Trust Fund including £200 for the purchase and shipment of a pedigree Hereford bull and £119 for the purchase of school text books.

POPULATION

There were 286 people on the island on 31st December, 1955, compared with 294 in 1954. There were three births and two deaths among the islanders in each of the years 1954 and 1955. There have also been two births and four deaths among non-islanders during 1954 and 1955. The first marriage for three years took place in 1955.

The population as at 31st December, 1954 and 1955 was as follows (children are those of 14 years and under) :

Year	ISLANDERS					NON-ISLANDERS				
	Adults		Children		Total	Adults		Children		Total
	M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F	
1954	89	82	33	48	252	12	11	12	7	42
1955	90	86	31	46	253	9	9	9	6	33

HEALTH

During January, 1954, a particularly virulent type of influenza swept the island, resulting in two deaths among the islanders. The epidemics of influenza and colds which have in the past followed the arrival of ships from other ports appear to be on the decline. Except for the influenza epidemic already mentioned, which followed the arrival of the *M.V. Ruys*, no similar infections occurred during 1954 and the general good health of the islanders was maintained.

Later in the year an island boy of 14 was sent to Cape Town for a kidney operation. This was successfully performed and the boy returned to the island in a good state of health.

There was much less illness during 1955 than in the previous year in spite of the visits of a greater number of ships. This appears to indicate that the islanders' resistance to such infection is gradually increasing.

Following the death of an African fisherman from pulmonary tuberculosis in the island's hospital, 245 islanders were "Mantrux" tested and 200 were later vaccinated with B.C.G. vaccine. It is proposed to continue the vaccinations until the danger of the outbreak of tuberculosis is overcome.

Early in 1955 some 100 samples of blood from islanders were sent to Dr. J. H. S. Gear of the South African Institute for Medical Research, Johannesburg, for investigations of antibodies against influenza and poliomyelitis viruses. A large proportion of the samples were found to have antibodies against influenza virus A, but very few against influenza virus B. As regards poliomyelitis, almost none had antibodies against type 1 virus, about a quarter had antibodies against type 2 virus and almost all had antibodies against type 3 virus. With this data it is hoped that information of considerable value will be gathered.

EDUCATION

There were 59 children attending the school on the last day of the school year in 1955. The school is divided into three classes : Seniors, 26 ; Juniors, 23 ; and Infants, 10. Children are admitted to school at the age of five and leave on their 15th birthday. During 1954, eight pupils were admitted and four left and in 1955 four were admitted and 12 left. The island children maintained their usual high standard of attendance as the average attendance figure of 99 per cent shows.

Extensive improvements have been made to the school during the two years under review including a new floor, which was paid for by public subscription, and the relining of all the rooms in the school with hardboard.

The serious lack of equipment has now been largely overcome by the provision of 50 new desks, infant desks and chairs, a teacher's desk, new blackboards, sports equipment and new text books.

LAW AND ORDER

The Administrator is the Magistrate. One inquest was held during 1954 regarding the death of the Master of the Company's fishing vessel. The finding was one of accidental death due to cerebral haemorrhage following a fall on the back of the head on board the vessel. The only other inquest was held in 1955 on the death of an African fisherman. A finding of death by drowning due to misadventure was recorded.

In order to provide some control over the possession, purchase and use of firearms, the St. Helena Firearms Ordinance was extended to Tristan da Cunha.

FISHING INDUSTRY AND EMPLOYMENT

The fishing industry suffered a setback at the beginning of the period under review, due to inability to persuade the islanders to fish during some of the best fishing months. The islanders' traditional pursuits are yielding only slowly to modern developments and a prolonged holiday was followed by trips to Nightingale Island to collect guano and later the potato harvest. At least three months of the fishing season were wasted in this way. Towards the end of 1954, however, a new eagerness appeared on the part of the

islanders to fish and to stick at it. With the offer by the Company to fetch all the islanders' guano requirements at the end of the fishing season in the Company's vessels, and the growing demand for crawfish offal from the canning factory as fertiliser for the potato crops, it might be possible to encourage the islanders to devote themselves to a full season's fishing.

Since the fishing season is reckoned from the 1st July in one year to the 30th June in the next, it is proposed to analyse the progress of the fishing industry by the seasons and not by the calendar year. Production for the 1954-55 season amounted to 25,234 cases of frozen tails and 1,413 cases of canned crawfish.

During 1954 the Company M.V. *Voorbok* was re-named *Frances Repetto* in memory of the Headwoman of the island who died in February, 1948.

IMPORTS AND SUPPLIES

The Company is required, by the terms of its concession, to maintain a non-profit making canteen on the island for the convenience of the islanders and all other inhabitants of Tristan. It is here that the islander spends most of his wages and indeed without the canteen money wages would be of very little value to him.

Imports were mainly confined to supplies for the canteen and the canning factory, both of which are maintained by the Tristan da Cunha Development Company and the Administration. As regards the canteen supplies, most of these held out over the winter months when no vessel called at the island, but no cigarettes or tobacco were on sale for one month before fresh supplies were received. Prices averaged about the same throughout the period under review, although there was a rise of five points in the cost of living index.

The canteen manager resigned during 1955 on the grounds of ill health and the canteen was taken over temporarily by the Company's accountant. It is hoped that this arrangement will be made permanent, thereby reducing the canteen overheads by about £600 a year with a corresponding general reduction in prices.

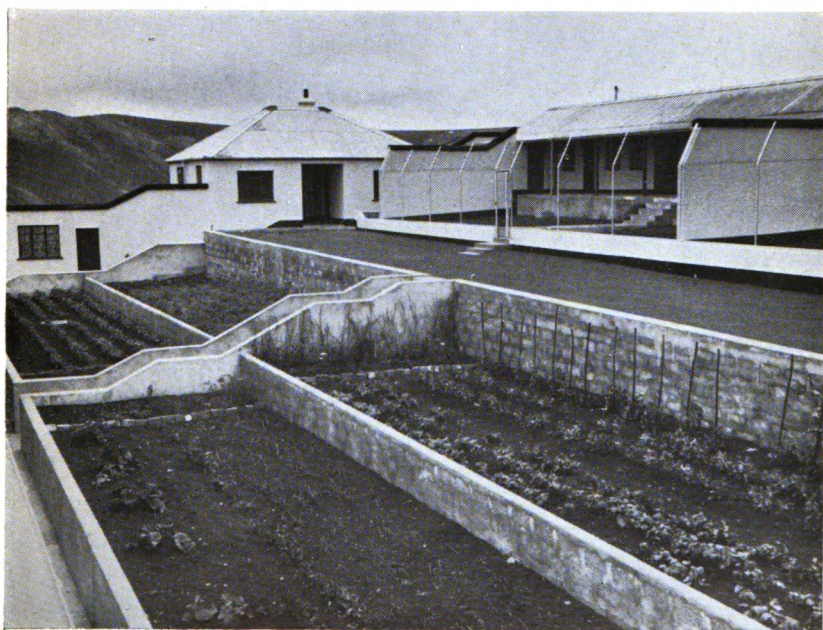
AGRICULTURE AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

One of the principal features in the agricultural sphere has been the great increase in the use of insecticides by the islanders. The potato grub, at one time regarded as a menace to the potato crop, is no longer regarded as such, and the old tradition of having a "Grubbing Day", when old and young turn out, has fallen away. Spraying with D.D.T. has been found to be most effective against this grub.

The appearance of aphids on the potato plants has been the cause of some concern. Previously not known on the island, the aphid is suspected of being introduced on fresh vegetables imported into the island. Strict control of the cleanliness of all vegetable and animal products imported is now being kept. Insecticides tried so far have failed to produce the results expected against this pest.



Agricultural Youth Training Scheme at Harper's (Violet Gilmour)



Part of the new Mental Hospital. Vegetables are grown by patients (G. F. Gammer)



Site preparation for Tristan da Cunha's new village hall



New bull and boar stables, Tristan da Cunha

Crop-growing demonstrations have been carried out on hired plots at the potato patches and the interest taken in these by the islanders is encouraging. There has also been a noticeable increase in the growing of vegetables for home consumption and sale.

An effort was made to improve the island's livestock in 1954 by the importation of a Hereford bull and five gilts. The bull has continued to thrive and his first calves are very promising, showing a definite improvement in type and flesh. The five gilts all bred litters averaging 10 born, seven reared, and the islanders are becoming conscious of the value of pigs. A pure bred Cheviot ram was imported from Scotland during 1955, in the hope of improving the main flocks of sheep. Two Border collie dogs were also imported from the United Kingdom for the purpose of breeding sheep dogs for resale to the islanders.

The Colonial Development and Welfare forestry project at Sandy Point is progressing favourably after nearly two years of work. The planting of trees, particularly varieties of pine and eucalyptus, is now being extended to cover other parts of the main island and adjoining islands. Trees planted out into their permanent positions are making good growth and some of the eucalyptus trees in sheltered positions are already between 12 and 15 feet high.

COMMUNICATIONS

There were five inward sea mails and nine outward in 1954, and six inward and nine outward in 1955. In addition to the above calls, six tankers and one freighter passed within sight.

The first pictorial issue of Tristan da Cunha stamps was put on sale through the local Post Office on the 2nd January, 1954. The demand for first-day covers was intensive, sales during the first month amounting to £2,490.

During 1954 the South African Government put into operation a public radio-telegraph service with three schedules a day with Cape Town. Official and private telegrams are transmitted at the following rates :

To the Union of South Africa

Ordinary telegrams	.	.	.	1s. per word
Letter telegrams (LT)	.	.	.	6d. per word (minimum 22 words).
*Commonwealth Social Telegrams	.	.	.	6d. per word (minimum 11 words).

To the United Kingdom

Ordinary telegrams	.	.	.	1s. 4d. per word.
Letter telegrams (LT)	.	.	.	8d. per word (minimum 22 words.)
*Commonwealth Social Telegrams	.	.	.	8d. per word (minimum 11 words).

*These telegrams to consist solely of greetings, congratulations, family news or non-commercial matter.

A temporary Post Office was established at Gough Island on the arrival there of the Gough Island Survey Expedition in November, 1955, a member of the Expedition having been appointed as Post-master.

A radio station at Gough Island was licensed for use by members of the Expedition. Daily schedules were maintained by the station with Tristan da Cunha and Cape Town.

H.M.S. *Magpie* visited the island in October, 1955, having as passengers the members of the Expedition.

WILD LIFE

The Wild Life Protection Ordinance, which was passed in 1950, aims to conserve all known species of wild life. Infringements of the Ordinance are punishable by heavy fines. Right whales, sea elephants and fur seals are to be found in the waters around Tristan. The bird life of the island, which is of considerable interest and includes the Giant-billed Bunting, the Lesser Noddy, the Frigate Bird and the Southern Black-Backed Gull, was investigated by the first Administrator.

Certain species of wild life on the other islands in the Tristan group are afforded complete protection.

APPENDIX I

STATEMENT OF COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES IN PROGRESS OR INITIATED
DURING THE TWO YEARS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1955

<i>Scheme No.</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Amount of Grant</i>	<i>Expenditure to 31st Dec., 1955</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
		£	£	
D489A D776	Housing Improvement of Water Supplies — Longwood Deadwood Area	40,000 3,000	35,946 2,980	Completed.
D875	Improvement of Water Supplies—Half Tree Hollow, New Ground, Ladder Hill and extension to Cleugh's Plain	3,500	2,827	
D1095&A &B	Agricultural and For- estry	41,700	41,943	Expenditure in excess of the grant will be met from con- tributions in respect of the Rat Cam- paign.
D1143	Appointment of 2 addi- tional trained teachers	4,000	3,679	
D1469&A	Employment of Agricul- tural Officer	6,850	6,399	Completed.
D1746	Improvement of Roads— Firewall Gate to Long- wood Gate	5,000	4,996	
D2016	Youth Employment	15,000	7,763	Completed.
D2037&A	Extension to Civil Hospital	33,800	29,404	
D2100	Poor House	5,000	2,296	Completed.
D2190	Improvement of Roads	5,000	3,677	
D2220	Visit of Hydraulic Engineer	900	—	Centrally administered.
D2401&A	Mental Hospital Staff	1,196	300	
D2317	Country Primary School	1,470	1,444	Completed.
D2424	Land Settlement	2,700	2,700	
D2455	Agricultural Develop- ment	82,000	4,794	Completed.
D2504	Rebuilding of Canister	10,000	—	
D2581	Purchase of Lorries	3,000	—	Completed.
D2562	Flax Industry	400	—	
D2611	Extension and Furnishing Nurses Home	2,000	—	Completed.
D2612	Social Welfare Officer	5,000	—	

APPENDIX II

FIFTY-FOUR YEARS' STATISTICS OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, DEATHS, MARRIAGES,
DIVORCES AND JUDICIAL SEPARATIONS*

<i>Year</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Births</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Marriages</i>	<i>Divorces</i>	<i>Judicial Separations</i>
1902	5,009	165	235	26	—	—
1903	9,850 (includes 4,655 P.O.W.)	146	76	32	—	—
1904	3,458 (includes 424 garrison)	122	52	29	—	—
1905	3,781 (includes 269 garrison)	136	56	18	—	—
1906	3,544	118	46	11	—	—
1907	3,485	134	36	17	—	—
1908	3,517	84	37	19	—	—
1909	3,553	96	27	17	—	—
1910	3,441	87	40	22	—	—
1911	3,482	95	39	20	1	—
1912	3,519	104	44	26	1	1
1913	3,514	101	51	22	—	—
1914	3,563	84	55	22	1	—
1915	3,594	87	53	26	—	1
1916	3,604	108	51	24	—	—
1917	3,634	96	50	33	—	—
1918	3,654	112	36	37	1	—
1919	3,648	125	29	27	1	—
1920	3,718	85	33	17	4	—
1921	3,670	93	24	20	—	—
1922	3,658	97	37	20	—	—
1923	3,654	114	28	20	1	—
1924	3,703	106	38	21	—	—
1925	3,747	111	44	29	—	—
1926	3,747	111	67	41	—	—
1927	3,747	99	63	36	1	1
1928	3,995	123	69	31	2	—
1929	3,747	121	40	34	3	—
1930	3,747	120	40	30	3	—
1931	3,995	126	59	28	—	—
1932	4,114	152	58	32	1	—
1933	4,170	116	68	31	1	—
1934	4,224	101	47	26	—	—
1935	4,318	150	45	40	—	—
1936	4,341	134	66	23	—	—
1937	4,415	132	32	42	—	—
1938	4,474	168	61	21	—	—
1939	4,622	123	49	24	2	1
1940	4,710	158	47	30	2	—
1941	4,702	157	45	40	3	—
1942	4,860	151	54	40	3	—
1943	4,992	196	35	43	1	1
1944	4,992	155	36	31	1	1
1945	4,942	193	65	38	2	1
1946	4,897	139	53	23	1	—
1947	4,969	165	31	25	3	—
1948	4,857	157	39	26	3	—
1949	4,664	149	56	36	4	—
1950	4,695	136	50	21	1	—
1951	4,748	134	48	24	2	—
1952	4,828	149	40	32	1	—
1953	4,895	140	36	31	3	—
1954	4,878	121	40	20	2	—
1955	4,877	140	53	20	2	—

* St. Helena only.

APPENDIX III

CUSTOMS TARIFF
(as at 31st December, 1955.)
Import Duties

Commodity	Rate	Preferential	General
Clothing :			
(i) Ready to wear outer clothing, except jerseys, cardigans and other knitted garments made from			
(a) Wool or mixture of wool and cotton	<i>ad valorem</i>	free	2½ per cent
(b) Cotton	"	10 per cent	12 " "
(c) Any other material	"	30 " "	35 " "
(d) Jerseys, cardigans, pull-overs and other knitted outer garments	"	10 " "	12½ " "
(ii) Ready to wear underclothing—			
(a) Machine-made or woven in wool, cotton or a mixture of both	"	free	12½ " "
(b) Hand-knitted in wool, cotton or mixture of both	"	10 per cent	12½ " "
(c) Any other material	"	30 " "	35 " "
(iii) Footwear—			
(a) Heavy outdoor boots and shoes and all children's shoes	"	free	2½ " "
(b) Others	"	10 per cent	12½ " "
(iv) Haberdashery and millinery	"	15 " "	20 " "
(v) Hosiery made from—			
(a) Cotton, wool and mix- tures	"	free	2½ " "
(b) Silk and art. silk	"	30 per cent	35 " "
Jewellery	"	30 " "	35 " "
Linen, manufactured	"	20 " "	25 " "
Silk and art. silk	"	30 " "	35 " "
Perfumery :			
(a) Toilet preparations and perfumed spirits	"	30 " "	35 " "
(b) Dentifrices	"	free	5 " "
Soap :			
(a) Common	per 100 lb.	2s. 1d.	2s. 6d.
(b) Toilet	<i>ad valorem</i>	15 per cent	20 per cent
Provisions :			
Butter and Cheese	per 100 lb.	4s. 2d.	5s. 0d.
Canned Meat	"	6s. 3d.	7s. 6d.
Canned Fish	<i>ad valorem</i>	15 per cent	20 per cent
Canned Fruit	per 100 lb.	8s. 4d.	10s. 0d.
Jams	"	6s. 3d.	9s. 4d.
Provisions not enumerated else- where	<i>ad valorem</i>	10 per cent	12½ per cent
Firearms :			
(a) Pistols and revolvers . . .	each	15s. 0d.	18s. 0d.
(b) Others	"	£1 10s. 0d.	£1 17s. 6d.
(c) Parts and accessories . . .	<i>ad valorem</i>	22½ per cent	30 per cent
(d) Ammunition	"	30 " "	35 " "

<i>Commodity</i>	<i>Rate</i>	<i>Preferential</i>	<i>General</i>
Metal manufactures :			
Clocks, watches and parts thereof	<i>ad valorem</i>	30 per cent	32½ per cent
Gramophones and phonographs, including loud speakers and accessories	"	15 " "	17½ " "
Wireless instruments, apparatus and accessories	"	15 " "	20 " "
Motor Cars	per 100 lb	12s. 6d.	13s. 9d.
Lorries and tractors	"	10s. 0d.	12s. 6d.
Machinery and parts	<i>ad valorem</i>	free	5 per cent
Musical instruments	"	15 per cent	17½ " "
Plate and plate ware	"	30 " "	35 " "
Spirits :			
(a) Brandy, gin rum and whisky			
(i) Not exceeding the strength of proof	per gallon	£4 2s. 6d.	£4 10s. 0d.
(ii) Exceeding the strength of proof	per proof gallon	£4 2s. 6d.	£4 10s. 0d.
Cordials and liqueurs all kinds, including bitters and flavouring extracts containing spirits .			
	per gallon	£4 2s. 6d.	£4 10s. 0d.
Wine :			
(a) Sparkling	" "	£1 5s. 0d.	£1 7s. 0d.
(b) Still—in bottles and in wood	" "	£1 5s. 0d.	£1 6s. 3d.
Tobacco :			
(a) Cigars and Cheroots	per lb	£1 5s. 0d.	£1 7s. 0d.
(b) Cigarettes	" "	12s. 0d.	16s. 0d.
(c) Other manufactured tobacco			
(i) Manufactured in the Empire entirely from Empire grown tobacco	" "	10s. 0d.	—
(ii) Manufactured in the Empire partly from Foreign grown tobacco	" "	12s. 0d.	—
Fuel Oils :			
Motor spirit	per gallon	4d.	6d.
Illuminating	" "	2d.	2½d.

*Export Duties**Commodity*

Hemp When the London Market price does not exceed £70 per ton—no tax.

<i>London Market price per ton</i>	<i>Rate of tax</i>	<i>Tax payable per ton</i>
		£ s. d.
Over £70 but not exceeding £80	7 per cent	4 18 0
" £80 " " " £90	8 " "	6 8 0
" £90 " " " £100	9 " "	8 2 0
" £100 " " " £110	10 " "	10 0 0
" £110 " " " £120	11 " "	12 2 0

Similarly 1 per cent increase in tax for every £10 increase in the market price per ton.

Provided that there shall be an abatement of 16s. of the above tax for every £1 by which the London Market price falls short of £76.

Tow Tax to be at the rate of ⅓ of the tax on Hemp.

Stripper Tow and Teased Tow No tax.

Phormium Tenax Suckers Per 1,000 suckers exported—12s. 6d.

APPENDIX IV

INCOME TAX

(a) *Individuals.* (Rate 9d. in the £ with abatement of one-third if maintaining a wife)

<i>Taxable Income</i>	<i>Incidence of tax</i>	<i>Abated tax</i>
£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
301	9	6
310	7 6	5 0
325	18 9	12 6
350	1 17 6	1 5 0
400	3 15 0	2 10 0
500	7 10 0	5 0 0
1,000	26 5 0	17 10 0
10,000	363 15 0	242 10 0

(Note. In assessing chargeable income a deduction of £300 is allowed.)

(b) *Companies.* (Rate 1s. 6d. in the £)

<i>Taxable income</i>	<i>Incidence of tax</i>
£	£
1,000	75
2,000	150
3,000	225
4,000	300
5,000	375
6,000	450
7,000	525
8,000	600
9,000	675
10,000	750

APPENDIX V

TABLE 1. CASES REPORTED TO AND DEALT WITH BY THE POLICE 1954

<i>Offences</i>	<i>Total reported in 1954</i>	<i>Taken to Court</i>	
		<i>Total</i>	<i>Convicted</i>
	(1)	(2)	(3)
<i>Against lawful authority</i>			
Against public order	2	2	2
Perjury	—	—	—
Escape and rescue	—	—	—
<i>Against public morality</i>			
Rape and indecent assault	—	—	—
Unnatural offences	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—
<i>Against the person</i>			
Murder and manslaughter	—	—	—
Attempted murder and suicide	—	—	—
Grievous harm, wounding, etc.	—	—	—
Assaults	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—
<i>Against property</i>			
Thefts and other stealings	3	3	3
Robbery and extortion	—	—	—
Burglary, house and store breaking	3	3	3
False pretences, cheating, fraud, etc.	—	—	—
Receiving stolen property	—	—	—
Arson	—	—	—
Praedial larceny	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—
<i>Against the Penal Code</i>			
Forgery and coinage	—	—	—
Other	3	3	3
<i>Against Local Laws</i>			
Against Traffic Ordinance	3	3	3
Against Township Ordinance	3	3	3
Against Liquor Ordinance	1	1	1
Gambling	—	—	—
Other	2	2	2
Totals	20	20	20

TABLE 2. PERSONS DEALT WITH BY THE COURTS 1954

Offences	Total arrested or summoned to court	Convicted						
		Total	Imprison- ment			Fine		
	(1)	(2)	(3)			(4)		
			M	F	J	M	F	J
<i>Against lawful authority</i>								
Against public order	2	2	—	—	—	2	—	—
Perjury	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Escape and rescue	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Against public morality</i>								
Rape and indecent assault	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unnatural offences	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Against the person</i>								
Murder and manslaughter	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Attempted murder and suicide	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grievous harm, wounding, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Assaults	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Against property</i>								
Thefts and other stealings	3	3	2	—	—	—	—	1
Robbery and extortion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Burglary, house and store breaking	3	3	1	—	—	—	—	2
False pretences, cheating, fraud, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Receiving stolen property	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arson	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Praedial larceny	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Against the Penal Code</i>								
Forgery and coinage	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	3	3	—	—	—	2	1	—
<i>Against Local Laws</i>								
Against Traffic Ordinance	3	3	—	—	—	3	—	—
Against Township Ordin- ance	3	3	—	—	—	1	2	—
Against Liquor Ordinance	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Gambling	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	2	2	—	—	—	2	—	—
Totals	20	20	3	—	—	11	3	3

M = Male adults
F = Female adults
J = Juveniles

TABLE 3. CASES REPORTED TO AND DEALT WITH BY THE POLICE 1955

<i>Offences</i>	<i>Total reported in 1955</i>	<i>Taken to Court</i>	
		<i>Total</i>	<i>Convicted</i>
	(1)	(2)	(3)
<i>Against lawful authority</i>			
Against public order	16	16	16
Perjury	—	—	—
Escape and rescue	—	—	—
<i>Against public morality</i>			
Rape and indecent assault . .	3	3	3
Unnatural offences	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—
<i>Against the person</i>			
Murder and manslaughter . .	—	—	—
Attempted murder and suicide .	—	—	—
Grievous harm, wounding, etc. .	—	—	—
Assaults	1	1	1
Other	—	—	—
<i>Against property</i>			
Thefts and other stealings . .	6	6	6
Robbery and extortion	—	—	—
Burglary, house and store breaking	—	—	—
False pretences, cheating, fraud, etc.	—	—	—
Receiving stolen property . . .	—	—	—
Arson	—	—	—
Praedial larceny	—	—	—
Other	1	1	1
<i>Against the Penal Code</i>			
Forgery and coinage	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—
<i>Against Local Laws</i>			
Against Traffic Ordinance . .	2	2	2
Against Township Ordinance . .	3	3	3
Against Liquor Ordinance . . .	—	—	—
Gambling	—	—	—
Other	4	4	4
Totals .	36	36	36

TABLE 4. PERSONS DEALT WITH BY THE COURTS 1955

Offences	Total arrested or sum- moned to court	Convicted							First offenders Act or warning
		Total	Imprison- ment			Fine			
			M	F	J	M	F	J	
	(1)	(2)	(3)			(4)			(5)
<i>Against lawful authority</i>									
Against public order	16	16	7	9	—	—	—	—	—
Perjury	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Escape and rescue	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Against public morality</i>									
Rape and indecent assault	3	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unnatural offences	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Against the person</i>									
Murder and manslaughter	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Attempted murder and suicide	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grievous harm, wounding, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Assaults	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Against property</i>									
Thefts and other stealings	6	6	3	—	—	—	—	—	3 males under 17 years
Robbery and extortion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Burglary, house and store breaking	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
False pretences, cheating, fraud, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Receiving stolen property	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arson	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Praedial larceny	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 males under 17 years
<i>Against the Penal Code</i>									
Forgery and coinage	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Against Local Laws</i>									
Against Traffic Ordinance	2	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Against Township Ordin- ance	3	3	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
Against Liquor Ordinance	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gambling	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	4	4	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
Totals	39	39	13	9	—	8	2	—	7

M = Male adults
F = Female adults
J = Juveniles

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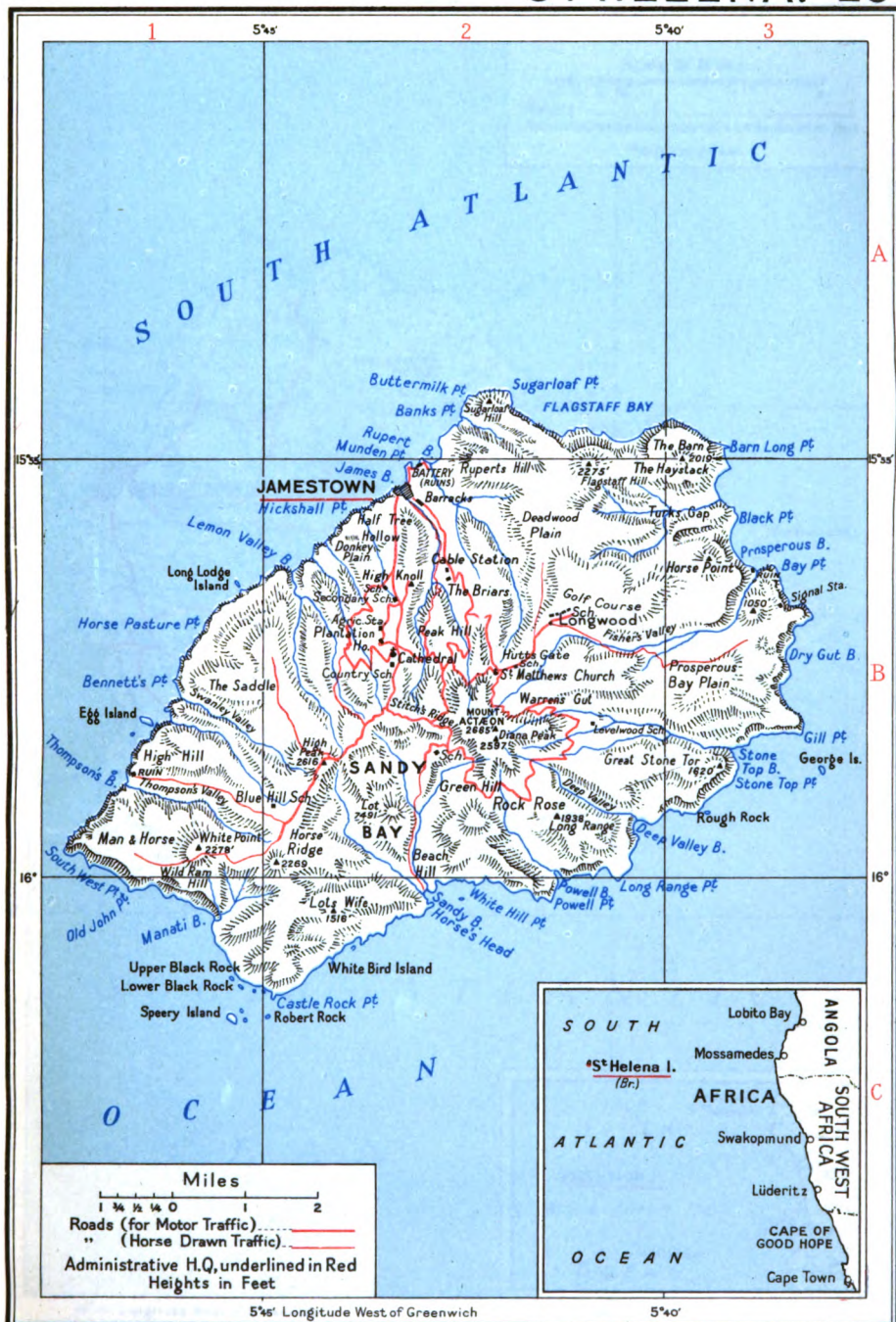
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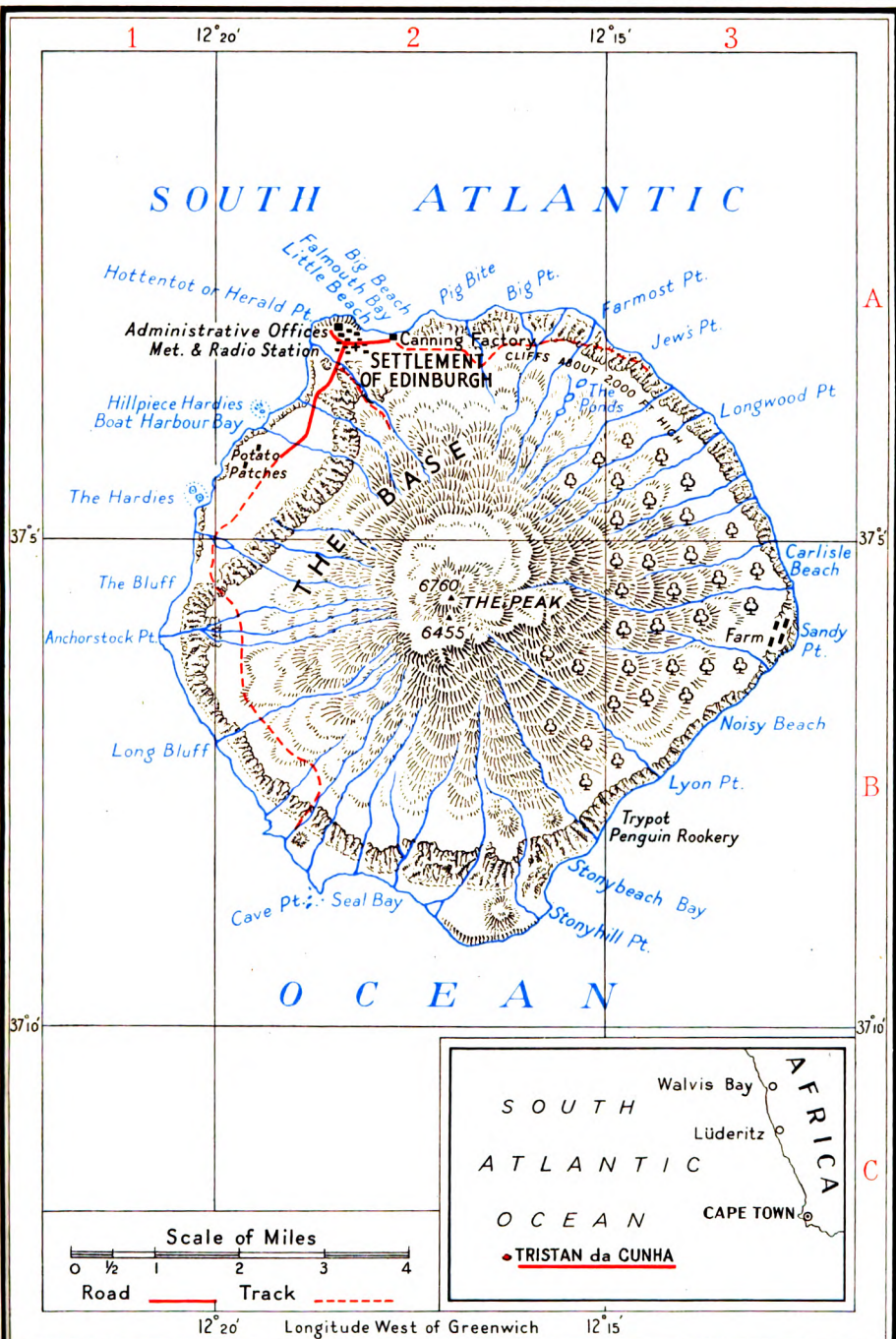
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